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DEVELOPMENT DIRECTIONS

A NEWSMAGAZINE ON INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
MAY 1978

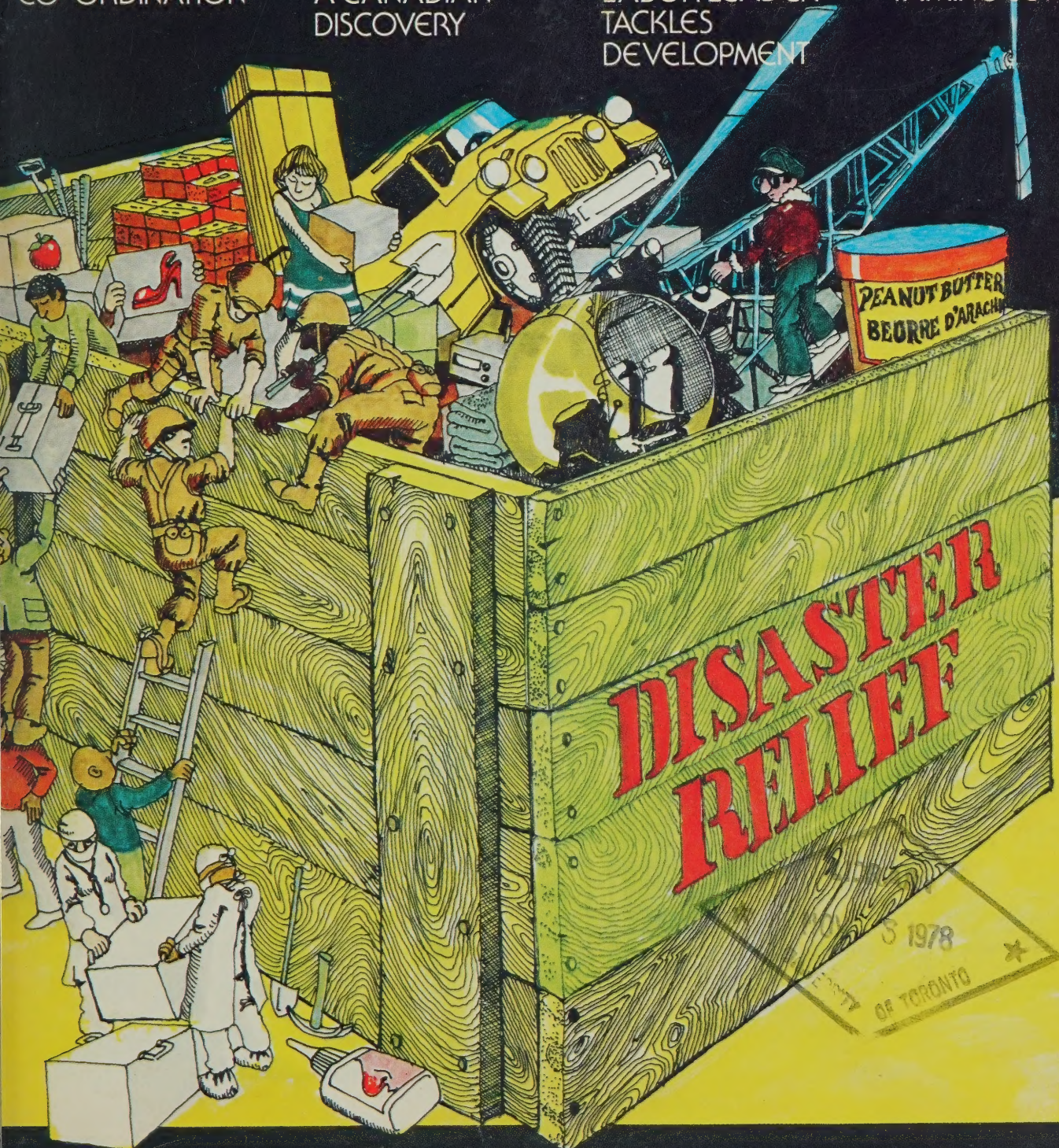
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DISASTER RELIEF:
THE NEED FOR
CO-ORDINATION

**SELF-FERTILIZING
WHEAT:**
A CANADIAN
DISCOVERY

**AN INTERVIEW
WITH JOE MORRIS:**
LABOR LEADER
TACKLES
DEVELOPMENT

THE SAHEL:
A THREAT OF
FAMINE CONTINUES



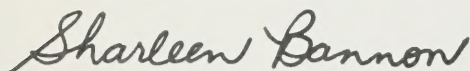
A note from the editor

This is the first issue of DEVELOPMENT DIRECTIONS, a newsmagazine on development co-operation published by CIDA. The objective of the new publication is to provide information to help readers better understand international development assistance and Canada's involvement.

DEVELOPMENT DIRECTIONS replaces CONTACT, CIDA's monthly newsletter and COOPERATION CANADA, the agency's journal. The new format in separate French and English language editions combines the best features of the two former publications—short news items and longer background articles—and adds several regular departments such as book and film reviews, *Development comment*, and *Spotlight on the United Nations*.

The writers for this issue of DEVELOPMENT DIRECTIONS include some widely published journalists. Roy LaBerge interviews ILO chairman, Joe Morris. Jeff Endrst, a veteran member of the press gallery at the United Nations and our correspondent at the UN, writes about the continuing threat of famine in the Sahel region of Africa. Hugh Nangle, a journalist specializing in international development, explores the North-South Institute.

Special thanks to the following people within CIDA for their helpful suggestions in bringing the magazine project to fruition: Bill Neddow, Jim White, Paul Doucet, Carolyn McMaster, Charles Jeanneret and Paul Ladouceur.



Sharleen Bannon
Editor

DEVELOPMENT DIRECTIONS is published nine times a year by the Canadian International Development Agency under the authority of the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honorable Don C. Jamieson. Issues are printed in January, February, March, April, May, July, September, October, and November.

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The opinions expressed in this magazine do not necessarily reflect the opinion or policies of the Canadian International Development Agency.

DEVELOPMENT DIRECTIONS welcomes letters to the editor. Submissions should be addressed to:

Editor,
DEVELOPMENT DIRECTIONS,
Canadian International
Development Agency,
200 rue Principale,
Hull, Quebec, Canada K1A 0G4.

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DEVELOPMENT DIRECTIONS est également disponible gratuitement en français sous le titre DIRECTIONS DU DÉVELOPPEMENT. Toute demande doit être adressée au responsable de la diffusion.

DIRECTIONS DU DÉVELOPPEMENT,
L'Agence canadienne de développement international.

ISSN 0705-064X

Contract No. OKX7-1173
Beauregard Press
Printed in Canada



Canadian International
Development Agency

Agence canadienne de
développement international

Cover:

"Disaster relief: implosion follows explosion"
by Stephen Clarke.

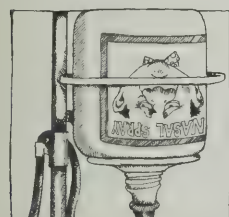
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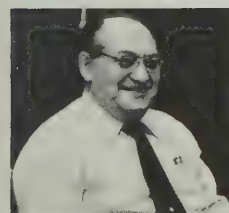
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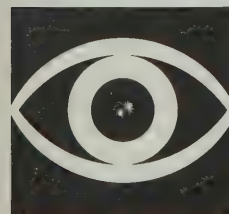
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Food

Canada pledges \$190 million to WFP

Canada has pledged \$190 million to the UN World Food Program for 1979-80. The two-year pledge comprises \$170 million for commodities and \$20 million in cash.

The WFP provides food aid to developing countries.

As one of the founding members of the program in 1962, Canada has put about \$475 million into it since 1963. The executive director of WFP is a Canadian, Gerry Vogel.

WFP's target for the next two years is \$950 million. At the pledging conference in February, 52 countries pledged \$630 million in food, cash, and services.

FAO predicts 27 countries must import food in 1978

Fair weather favored planting of winter cereals in the Northern Hemisphere, but the outlook for 1978 cereal crops is mixed, says the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

Cereal planting proceeded well in China, India, the Soviet Union, the Near East, North Africa and the United States this winter. But inadequate snow cover left cereal crops vulnerable to extreme cold in parts of the southern Soviet Union, northern Europe and the United States. In addition, the U.S. winter wheat production will be influenced by a 14 per cent reduction in acreage.

The FAO says that fair weather in China favored both fall harvesting and winter planting. Abundant precipitation bodes well for the enlarged area planted this winter in India. On the other hand, dry weather continues to impair rice prospects in Indonesia, Laos, Thailand and Malaysia.

The FAO estimates that wheat and coarse grain trade for 1977-78 will jump to a record 144.5 million tonnes. Wheat trade alone is now expected to increase by 11

million tonnes to 70 million tonnes.

The FAO reports that the cereal import needs of the 49 most seriously affected and food priority countries declined in 1977-78 to an estimated 18.7 million tonnes, against 20.2 million tonnes in the prior season. India is expected to become a net exporter of food grains this year. Twenty-seven other countries, including Egypt, Ethiopia, El Salvador, Gambia, Ghana, Indonesia, Kenya, Laos, Tanzania and Vietnam, will have to import food. The 49 food-deficient countries need to acquire 6.6 million tonnes of cereals worth \$1.2 billion.

Vietnam to get Canadian food aid

Canada is helping Vietnam overcome food shortages by sending them wheat flour



worth \$5 million (about 22,000 tons). CIDA will also meet the cost of transporting it to Da Nang and Ho Chi Minh City, bringing the value of this assistance to \$7 million.

This food aid shipment, made in response to a request from the government of Vietnam, is in addition to the \$1.5 million of food aid provided to them by Canada in 1977.

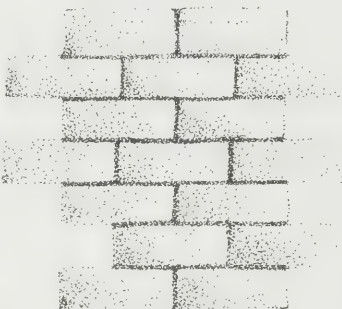
Although the government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam gives top priority to achieving self-sufficiency in food production, crops have been poor in the past two years, because drought, floods, typhoons and unseasonable cold crippled agricultural production.

The UN Food and Agriculture Organization estimates Vietnam's food grain deficit at between 1.2 and 1.5 million tons. Vietnam has already purchased about 120,000 tons from the Canadian Wheat Board.

The wheat flour will be made into bread by agricultural co-operatives in the areas hardest hit by shortages. These co-operatives will be responsible for distributing the food to consumers free of charge. Vietnamese authorities have indicated that they will facilitate visits to the distribution points by Canadian officials.

Canadian grant to food-for-work projects in Bangladesh

Bricks and cement, sluice gates and culverts will be provided through a Canadian grant to help Bangladesh in its



struggle to control monsoon floods that destroy vital food crops each year.

CIDA will contribute \$5.15 million during the next three years for materials and services needed to strengthen food-for-work projects in Bangladesh. The grant, the first ever made for this purpose, includes \$4 million for local procurement of materials, equipment and labor for use in the construction of sluice gates, culverts, regulators, bridges and other structures that will make public works projects such as flood control embankments more durable. The remainder of the funds will provide for Bangladeshi technical and administrative staff and Canadian advisers.

The goal of the project is to make some of the food-for-work schemes supported by the World Food Program (WFP) more lasting in their effect. Workers on these projects are paid in food for their daily labor, which usually consists of moving earth from one place to another to improve river embankments and run-off channels.

Funds are often lacking, however, for structures that would make the earthworks more permanent. The Canadian grant will not only finance essential materials for selected WFP food-for-work projects, thus giving food aid a more developmental impact, but will also provide technical services so that earthworks can be designed in a more co-ordinated way and incorporated into a master plan for management of water resources.

CIDA and WFP are co-operating in this project with the Bangladesh Ministry of Relief and Rehabilitation, the co-ordinating agency for all food-for-work activities, and with the Water Development Board which will be the principal executing agency. Bangladesh will contribute about \$1 million of support, including agricultural extension services to farmers affected by the schemes so that benefits can be spread widely.

Ten Days for World Development

Ten Days for World Development, the development education program of Canada's five main churches, was held February 10-20 with a focus, for the second year, on food issues.

Concentrating on the political, economic and social aspects of the world food system, the Anglican, Catholic, Lutheran, Presbyterian, and United Churches held educational events across the country, with over 50 local inter-church committees taking part.

CIDA also assists in sponsoring the program with a dollar-for-dollar matching grant from its public participation program.

Two distinguished experts on the world food system visited Toronto, Montreal and Ottawa, meeting with national media, MPs, government experts, and non-governmental organizations, and speaking at public meetings. The experts were Susan George, author of *How the Other Half Dies; the Real*

Reason for World Hunger, and Professor Gonzalo Arroyo, a Chilean priest and agricultural economist from the University of Paris.

In addition there were seven visitors from Guatemala, the Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, Bolivia and Sri Lanka. All have worked closely with rural people, and while in Canada they visited many regions participating in local workshops, public meetings and media events.

A kit for workshop leaders was published containing information on such issues as land use, Canadian food policy, infant formula feeding and food aid. There were also some 300,000 tabloid newspapers distributed on the same themes.

Many Ten Days local committees carry on education and action programs at the community level throughout the entire year.

For further information on Ten Days, contact the National Co-ordinator, Ten Days for World Development, Room 219, 600 Jarvis Street, Toronto, Canada M4Y 2J6.

Jamaica given \$11 million for food

Canada has given Jamaica a balance-of-payments support grant of \$11 million which is being used to buy food from Canada and Guyana.

The Canadian foodstuffs worth \$5 million, will include 1,300 metric tons of wheat, 680 tons of salted cod, 635 metric tons of pickled navel beef, 263 metric tons of alewives and some canned herring and mackerel.

Approximately 9,000 metric tons of rice worth \$5 million purchased by Jamaica from Guyana is being financed by Canada under the agreement. A balance of \$1 million is for transportation costs and other contingencies.

The food supplies were delivered in March, and Jamaica will set up a counterpart fund in Jamaican currency equivalent to the \$11 million Canadian. The fund, in a Jamaican bank, will be used to finance development projects that are approved by CIDA.

East African Community dismantled

The United Nations has agreed to assist in a basically counter-development endeavor by appointing a mediator in the liquidation of the East African Community.

Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania agreed that Victor Umbricht, an experienced Swiss diplomat, should help them reach agreement on the division of the assets and liabilities of the corporations and institutions previously operated by the Community. He will also make recommendations concerning the future of the East African Development Bank.

The Umbricht appointment resulted from negotiations held under the auspices of the World Bank. Mr. Umbricht has served since 1973 as the personal representative of UN Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim for special missions. He is currently the UN Coordinator of International Assistance to Indochina.

The East African Community was created by a treaty signed

in 1967. In recent years, however, as a result of political and economic difficulties among its members, the Community and its institutions, except for the Development Bank, have for all practical purposes ceased to function.

Mr. Umbricht's assignment is "to recommend to the partner-states proposals for the permanent and equitable division of the assets and liabilities of the EAC Corporations and the General Fund Services."

The Community Corporations include railways, posts and telecommunications, harbors and airways. The General Fund Services include institutions that administer statistics, air traffic control and meteorology.

Mr. Umbricht has also been mandated to review the charter of the East African Development Bank which is jointly owned by the three countries, and make recommendations on its future structure and operations.

UN Special Fund dies due to lack of support

The United Nations has announced the demise of its Special Fund for countries most seriously affected by economic crisis.

The Special Fund was established by the UN General Assembly at the special session in 1974 which marked the beginning of organized Third World efforts to get the industrialized countries to agree to a new world economic order.

The Assembly then decided to establish a Special Fund through voluntary contributions from the so-called "have" countries and other potential donors, such as members of OPEC. The purpose of the Fund was to provide emergency relief and development assistance.

The measure was not supported by most of the Western countries. The Communist countries of Eastern Europe disclaimed responsibility for the problems of the "have-nots" on the grounds

that they could not be expected to pay for what they considered to be "colonial sins."

The first contribution to the Special Fund came in 1976 when Norway gave \$9,981,851. Venezuela then followed with a donation of \$11,629,440.

They turned out to be the only ones to respond from among the 149 members of the United Nations.

As a result, it was later decided to release all but \$3.35 million of the collected total as a contribution to the newly-organized International Fund for Agricultural Development.

Late in January the Board of Governors of the Special Fund met in New York and proposed that the activities of the Fund be frozen or suspended "until such time as new developments might warrant a reconsideration of the situation."

The president of the board, Ole Algard of Norway, said the situation "does not seem likely to improve in the future."

UN programs

Canada helps Ugandan refugees and "Boat People"

Canada has announced two special contributions to assist Ugandan refugees in Kenya and to care for and maintain refugees who have fled Kampuchea (Cambodia) and Vietnam by boat.



The children of refugees from Kampuchea (Cambodia) are cared for in the nursery of a plantation in Malaysia, where their families were accepted as permanent settlers. Photo: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

The contributions (\$250,000 for each program) were announced on the occasion of the visit to Ottawa of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Poul Hartling. Mr. Hartling, a former prime minister of Denmark, was appreciative of Canada's role in taking in refugees, noting in particular the government's commitment to accept the "boat people" at the rate of 50 families a month.

Canada also recently announced a \$700,000 contribution to UNHCR for refugees of Rhodesia currently living in Mozambique and Zambia. Canada's total contribution to the regular program of the UNHCR last year was \$850,000.

"In other countries, we often mention Canada as a country with a good record," Mr. Hartling said.

The race against famine in the Sahel

by Jeff Endrst

Once again this decade, up to nine million people in eight countries of the Sahel region in West Africa are in danger of becoming casualties of a disastrous drought.

A similar situation in 1974 resulted in the death of tens of thousands of people and millions of cattle. This time, UN officials hope that nobody will die of hunger. But the drought is real; the losses from it will again be incalculable; and the international community must urgently deal with this "creeping disaster" to prevent the Sahel from becoming a permanent case of international charity.

What is actually happening, and how does it differ from the 1974 situation?

The hard-core problem centres essentially on the same eight countries which were affected by the earlier disaster—Cape Verde, Gambia, Mauritania, Senegal, Chad, Mali, Niger and Upper Volta. The FAO classifies all but Niger as gravely affected. But in addition, there are serious drought-related problems in northern Ghana and Nigeria.

During the first crisis, it took three rainless years before international relief machinery swung into action. By then, it was too late for many of the victims. At that time, organized relief operations started to break down in the congested and inadequate West African ports. Food was piling up in the coastal areas while inland people were dying of hunger. The Sahel could not handle the emergency. There were no railways or roads to speak of. About \$50 million was spent on aircraft flying food to the outlying areas.

The international community has, however, learned some lessons from the 1974 emergency.

The UN Development Program (UNDP), with active Canadian participation, has decided to fight future drought

effects through development. Last December, the first shipload of road-building equipment left New Jersey for West Africa to start a \$100 million Sahel project designed to provide 3,200 kilometres of roads, feeding from the administrative and social centres of the eight countries to the isolated countryside where the bulk of the population lives.

A \$5 million Canadian contribution has helped to purchase heavy trucks, fuel and water tanks, field-support trailers, electrical generators and radio communication systems. Canada's Lavalin-International will co-ordinate road-building activities in Chad, while FENCO will act as a consultant in the Gambia.

Even before the devastating drought of the early 1970s brought Sahelian economic activities to a standstill, the area's progress was severely hobbled by the isolation of farms from markets, producers from customers, and administrative centres from the bulk of the people. But the first disaster has taught us that prevention may be cheaper than the cure itself. Thus, the feeder-road project.

International consciousness of the current emergency in the Sahel started to develop last May. An improved early warning system of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) signalled once again that the rains were failing. By September 1977, the impending crisis was beginning to take shape.

FAO began calculating what the drought would mean in terms of crop and animal failures. Every 10 days, the FAO now issues an up-to-date report on available food in every one of the eight affected Sahel countries. Weather conditions are being constantly monitored. So is water availability and flow.

The monitoring of an approaching disaster in the Sahel is not easy. The area is unevenly affected. It stretches

across the southern rim of the Sahara Desert for some 3,000 kilometres. It is populated largely by nomads who eke out a living by grain farming and livestock raising.

To them, irregular rains mean poor crops and a threat to their existence. Their livestock represents their only capital. When the scrawny cattle run out of the last patch of grass and perish, the nomads consider themselves wiped out. They have been deprived of their last known means of livelihood. In Cape Verde, Gambia, Mauritania and Senegal, this is the fate of some 75 per cent of the population.

So what is happening now?

According to the FAO, the Sahel situation already requires a minimum of 430,000 metric tons in emergency food shipments. Also recommended were an additional 124,000 tonnes to be pre-positioned to cope with contingencies before the next rainy season. So far 355,000 tonnes have been pledged, but the FAO states that further extraordinary efforts by both donor and recipient countries are required. The immediate deliveries are designed not so much to rescue the hungry from a certain famine but rather to replenish depleted security stocks in the area.

But it is not a question of food only. The drought also affects cash crops. For example when Senegal loses 30 per cent of its groundnut crop which is the country's main foreign exchange earner, the country loses much of its thin economic base. Above all, Senegal will have less foreign currency to buy food with, not to speak of other vital necessities of the national economy.

All this means two basic things for international relief planners: assessment of the actual requirements of the affected area, and management of available international machinery to meet those require-

ments adequately and in time.

In this endeavor, the World Food Program (WFP) currently serves as the focal point of international emergency assistance to the Sahel. WFP is a Rome-based-FAO-related agency which annually disburses \$750 million worth of donated food to needy Third World countries. Since last summer, it has been headed by Garson Nathaniel Vogel of Winnipeg.



The lives of some nine million people are threatened by the current drought in the Sahel. Photo: CIDA



UN photo

Canada, who as former Chief Commissioner of the Canadian Wheat Board, is a long-time expert in marketing \$4 billion worth of Canadian wheat a year on the world's markets. Canada is WFP's leading contributor with \$100 million a year in food, agricultural aid and cash.

Mr. Vogel will have to put his expertise to work to avoid duplication in effort by the various governmental and private relief organizations. He has to avoid overtaxing the West African port facilities and inland transport and

storage facilities in each of the eight affected countries. He has to see to the pre-positioning of food and other supplies in the area before the rainy season in June (if it comes).

Besides food, WFP has to worry about other things. After having supplied \$14 million worth of food to the Sahel since the last emergency, this agency is now trying to assist local governments to implement development projects designed to bring about a reconstruction and re-development of the zone. There are 37 such development projects underway backed by a total of \$82 million in outside voluntary contributions. These seek improvement in the nutritional status of vulnerable population groups, especially mothers and pre-school children.

There is support for educational and training programs. There are food-for-work projects, road construction improvement, soil conservation and forestry, water supplies, agriculture improvement, and dairy development.

"We are trying to involve them in their own problems so that they are involved in a process which is designed to lead to their self-sufficiency and self-reliance," said John Shaw

of WFP at a recent news conference in New York.

Mr. Shaw then discussed the problems which now face the international community.

One hundred thousand tonnes of food is needed urgently to meet the 430,000 tonne emergency target.

Some countries, such as France, donate food but expect to be paid for its transport to the area of need. WFP must find a donor for that. Other countries or private relief organizations do not like their contributions submerged in the anonymous pool of international relief. But their sole effort sometimes complicates the team work at the disaster area.

While the Sahel emergency requires an international response, participation in the effort thus far is far from international.

Besides the traditional food donors—the United States, Canada, the European Economic Community and Australia—there has been no rush with donations in cash or kind from others.

The Swiss government is making available experts in logistics, storage and handling. They will be posted at West African ports and other receiving points in the area. Their role apparently includes efforts to eliminate unnecessary spoilage, graft and theft of food as had reportedly been the case in the first Sahel emergency.

In each of the eight countries, WFP has stationed field officials who work with local authorities on security arrangements concerning storage and transport of food supplies.

All these arrangements and co-ordinated efforts are designed to prevent a single death from hunger in the Sahel, if possible. But it does not end there.

Charles Weitz of FAO discussed at the same recent news conference in New York what happens "in case no one dies."

The other side of the question is "how do people go on living when their means of livelihood was taken from them by the drought?"

His answer was that governments and institutions must worry about means of preserving the capacity of the Sahel people to go on earning their living. That in turn means to preserve their herds and to help them get started early enough to replant their fields. Time is of the essence here. Seed donations are a major component of FAO's consideration. If time is wasted and seeds are not sufficient in amounts, the Sahel will call on the United Nations next year to feed its people because they have lost all means of taking care of themselves.

Therefore, Mr. Weitz emphasized: "No matter how well the response on the food side goes, the response on the non-food side is maybe equally important, and over the long run more critical, because if we do not sustain the earning capacity of the people, they'll find themselves in a permanent charity situation."

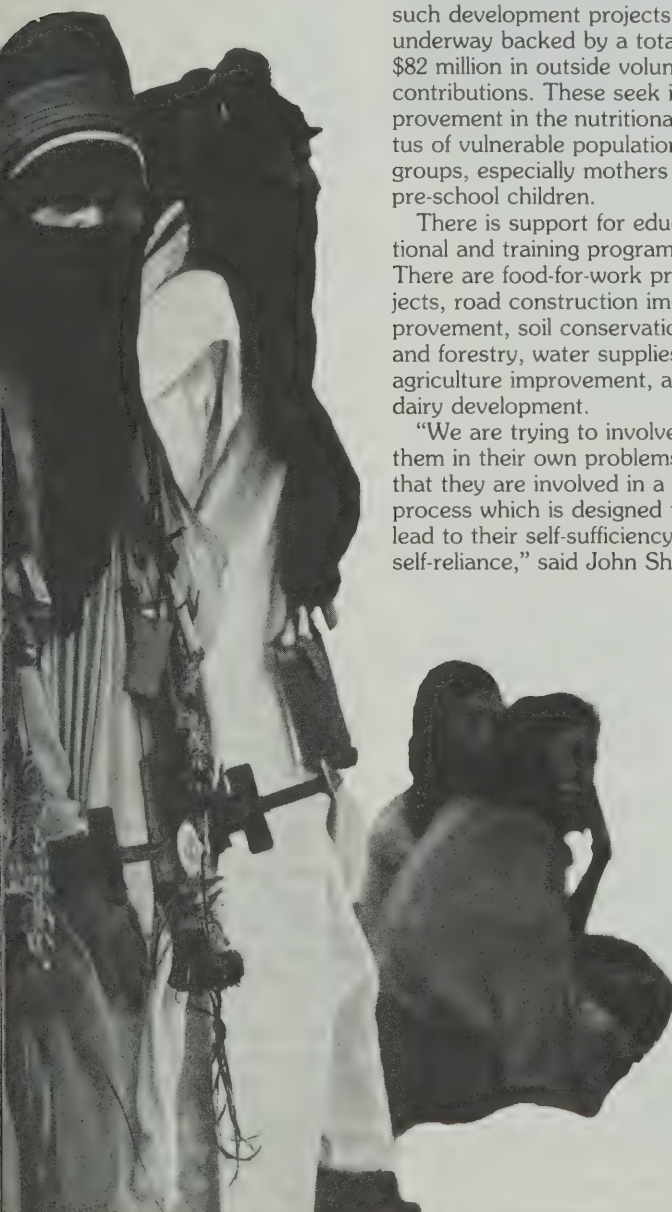
His postscript was: "response to appeals for food help has been satisfactory; response on the non-food side has been very poor."

That makes it a "very real problem," Mr. Weitz said. There is urgent need for animal feed concentrates, veterinary supplies and medicines. For example, Mauritania alone needs 200,000 tonnes of animal feed just to protect the breeding stock.

WFP has no hope of protecting the full stock of sheep, goats and cattle. But even if it succeeds in saving the breeding stock, there still is the problem of water and fodder. The priority in the Sahel is people. But they don't have much of a future without their principal livelihood—the cattle.

DD

Jeff Endrst is a journalist based at the United Nations in New York who specializes in international issues and Third World development.



Africa

Canada establishes diplomatic relations with Angola

Canada has established diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of Angola, it was announced recently by Don Jamieson, Secretary of State for External Affairs.

The agreement was signed by Canada's permanent representative to the United Nations, William H. Barton, and the permanent representative of the People's Republic of Angola, Elisio de Figueredo. When a Canadian ambassador is appointed to this new post, he will hold simultaneous accreditation as High Commissioner to Lagos, Nigeria.

SWAPO delegates visit Canada

Two members of the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO), the liberation movement of Namibia, toured Canada from January 28 to March 13 informing Canadians of the plight of the people of Namibia (also known as South West Africa).

Aaron Shihepo, SWAPO's deputy secretary for foreign relations and Tonata Emvula, secretary of SWAPO's women's council, met with local union, church and non-government groups concerned about the situation in southern Africa. While in Ottawa they spoke to MPs, external affairs officials, labor leaders, and non-governmental organizations involved in humanitarian assistance.

The two SWAPO representatives spoke of the war and struggle for independence in their country, and the plight of Namibians living under South Africa's occupying army.

They requested assistance for humanitarian projects in education, health, and agriculture at the refugee settlement camps in Zambia and Angola. They specifically asked for Canadian government action against multinational companies operating in Namibia, mentioning Falconbridge Nickel and the Hudson's Bay Company.

The tour was organized by CUSO, through its field office in Lusaka, Zambia and its development education department in Ottawa.

They visited several cities, including Vancouver, Victoria, Nanaimo, Edmonton, Calgary, Regina, Saskatoon, Winnipeg, Sudbury, Kitchener-Waterloo, Kingston, Toronto, Ottawa, Montreal and Halifax.

Road to link Botswana and Zambia

A successful road-building project in Botswana has brought the people of that country one step closer to better communication with non-white-controlled Africa. The road from Francistown to Nata in north-east Botswana is the first leg of a multi-donor project to link Botswana by road to Kazungula, Zambia.

Canada, Denmark and Norway financed the 180 kilometre paved road from Francistown to Nata, and other donors will complete the road to Zambia. Norway, the project leader, provided a grant of about \$9 million; Denmark, \$5 million; and Canada, \$5 million to the project which was completed in November, one month ahead of schedule and below the 1974 estimated cost.

Asia

Canada and Philippines sign double taxation agreement

Commercial and financial exchanges between Canada and the Philippines have been given fresh impetus with the signing of a convention between the two countries for the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes and income.

Under this agreement obstacles regarding the tax status of firms or individuals of one country deriving income from the other will be removed, and economic relations will be strengthened.

Micronesia's independence set for 1981



An independent Micronesia will have to expand its exports beyond its current dependence on coconuts.

Photo: CIDA

Within the next two years, a group of islands currently under trusteeship to the United States may join the Third World family of developing nations.

The goal of the U.S. government is to end its current trusteeship role over a group of Pacific Islands in 1981. The United Nations system has therefore begun efforts to prepare the 125,000 people of Micronesia for self-government based on a self-supporting economy.

The UN Development Program (UNDP) has allocated a modest \$1 million to assist in Micronesia's first economic five-year plan which started in 1976.

The biggest challenge facing development planners is logistics. The Western Pacific Trust Territory comprises the Caroline, Marshalls and Mariana groups on 97 inhabited atolls and islands totalling 700 square miles but strewn over three million square miles of ocean.

The second biggest problem is the vastly unequal income of the people now working, and the fear that an American exodus in 1981 will result in increased unemployment and added economic hardships.

Forty-seven per cent of the population is under 15 years of age and will substantially swell the ranks of those already unemployed or "not working."

The average per capita income for the trust territory is more than \$1,000 and in the Marianas it is inching towards \$3,000. But the income is to a great extent derived from wages and salaries generated by U.S. presence. The economy itself has a generally undeveloped base. Imports are four times higher than exports.

The chief agricultural subsistence and export crop is coconut. Considerable potential exists for increased production of root crops, fruit, livestock and fisheries.

The five-year plan calls for development of indigenous resources. The general education and literacy level is high compared to other developing countries. But very few Micronesians have acquired specialized skills. The islands therefore need expertise and properly designed training programs for many years to come.

While the nature of the relationship between the United States and Micronesia after 1981 remains uncertain, it is expected that the flow of American resources to the Pacific Islands will be far less than 50 per cent of the national income as at present.

UNDP's role until 1981 is to help develop strategies designed to hold down both private and social consumption of consumer goods and services, expenditures on social infrastructure, and government operating costs.

The level of domestic production must rise through increased flow of investments.

In addition to UNDP, Micronesia is getting international assistance through such UN-related organizations as the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), International Labour Organization (ILO) and the World Health Organization (WHO). They are helping with Micronesia's national accounts, manpower planning, marine resources, transportation, health and education, and handicrafts.

CIDA

A corporate review of CIDA results in administrative changes

Several changes have taken place within CIDA, as a result of a recently completed corporate review. The review, which began early last year, was undertaken to improve the agency's operations and thereby increase its efficiency.

Most significant among the recent changes was the creation of the Resources Branch. Its role is to provide advice and services to the agency's program branches on the development and management of programs and projects by sector.

Pierre Sicard, formerly vice-president in charge of the corporate review, has been named vice-president of the Resources Branch. It comprises the Engineering and Human Resources Divisions (formerly with the Bilateral Branch), Special Advisers (formerly a separate branch), and the Contracts, Materiel Management, and Consultant and Industrial Relations Divisions (formerly with the Finance and Administration Branch).

The corporate review re-organized the finance elements of the Finance and Administration Branch in an effort to improve financial management and make it more efficient under a new Comptroller's Branch headed by David Aitchison, formerly director general of the Corporate Services Branch of the Ministry of State for Science and Technology.

The remaining elements of the Finance and Administration Branch (administrative services and security) have been combined with the Personnel Branch to form the Personnel and Administrative Services Branch, under Director General Charles Bassett.

Other agency branches, Policy, Communications, Bilateral, Multilateral and Special

Programs have remained essentially unchanged, but further changes resulting from the corporate review are to be introduced in stages with the final structure in place by the autumn of 1980.

CIDA president visits Vancouver

CIDA President Michel Dupuy was in Vancouver recently, speaking to businessmen at the Vancouver Club, non-governmental organizations, and students at the University of British Columbia.

In an effort to ascertain public opinion on the government's international co-operation program, Mr. Dupuy appeared on a "hot-line" program hosted by Jack Webster of radio station CJOR. Although the callers' general attitude to foreign aid was negative, Mr. Dupuy clarified the issues for many of them. He was also interviewed by other radio personalities and newspaper journalists.

The Vancouver trip was the third in a series of visits to Canadian cities to increase his personal contact with Canadians. Since taking over as CIDA president in March 1977, he has also visited Toronto and Montreal.

In all his Vancouver speeches and interviews, Mr. Dupuy emphasized the changing complexion of international co-operation. He said the simple transfer of resources from rich to poor countries during the past 28 years has not alleviated Third World poverty.

He noted that CIDA's budget will probably increase by 10 per cent this year, from \$1.1 billion to \$1.2 billion.

"We will continue to increase support for the non-governmental organizations," he said, noting their ability "to reach the grass roots in ways that would be impossible through governmental channels."

He said CIDA will spend \$50 million this year on joint government-business aid programs (a \$14 million increase over last year). He wants to tell businessmen, "You find the deals and I'll find the money."

People

Canadian receives OAPEC appointment

A. F. Odeh, development analyst with the Department of Regional Economic Expansion, has been appointed senior economic adviser with the Organization of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries in Kuwait. For the last 11 years Mr. Odeh has carried out assignments for various Canadian government departments and for the Ontario government.

He has an MA in economic planning from University of Toronto and is completing his diploma program at the Institute for International Co-operation at the University of Ottawa. His main work is in the area of economic integration in the Third World.

Dorais named agency senior vice-president

Leo A. Dorais, vice-president of CIDA's Policy Branch, has been named senior vice-president of the agency. Before coming to CIDA in 1976, Mr. Dorais was a professor at the University of Quebec in Montreal and director of a management development program. He was the founder-director of the University of Quebec and has a master's degree in business administration and a PhD in educational administration from the University of Chicago. He was a member of the council of the Company of Young Canadians and the Canadian Council on Rural Development.

Sicard to head new CIDA branch

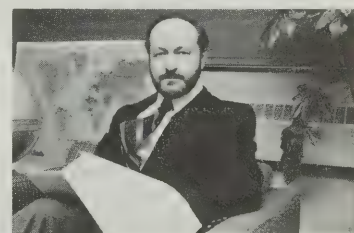
Pierre Sicard, vice-president in charge of CIDA's recent corporate review has been appointed vice-president of the newly-created Resources Branch. The corporate review was undertaken early last year to streamline operations and increase the agency's efficiency. The new Resources Branch was created to provide

advice and services to program branches on the development and management of programs and projects by sector. It amalgamates elements from other branches of the agency.

Mr. Sicard joined CIDA in 1972 and was country programs manager and subsequently director general of the Francophone Africa Division. He received his degree as a chartered accountant in 1962 and held various posts in the private sector, including serving as associate director general of the Ivorian Industrial Development Bank in Abidjan, Ivory Coast.

CIDA President named to IDRC board of governors

CIDA's President, Michel Dupuy, has been appointed to



Michel Dupuy

the 21-member board of governors of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) in Ottawa. Mr. Dupuy, who holds a diploma in international relations from the Institut des Etudes Politiques, Paris and a doctorate in international law from the Université de Paris, has been president of CIDA since March 1977.

Prior to his appointment to CIDA, he held several senior posts at the Department of External Affairs, most recently as assistant under-secretary of state. He was also assistant to Allan MacEachen when MacEachen was co-chairman of the Conference on International Economic Co-operation in Paris in 1976-77.

IDRC supports research to adapt science and technology to developing countries. Eleven of the governors must be Canadians and the other 10 are people who have made notable contributions in the field of international development. Four of the present governors are from developing countries.

Photo: Andrew Bako

VADA: a federal-provincial approach to international development

by Sharleen Bannon

At least three provincial governments may be on the brink of making their first innovative contributions to international development through a unique federal-provincial organization designed for this purpose.

The organization is VADA—the Voluntary Agricultural Development Aid Program. It is the only formal channel permitting provincial governments to receive federal assistance to support provincial initiatives in providing agricultural development assistance and food aid to Third World countries.

The federal funding is provided through CIDA which also co-ordinates the project with the donor province and the recipient country.

The projects proposed by Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick and Saskatchewan at the most recent VADA meeting in February are the first of their type proposed to the two-year-old body.

Nova Scotia wants VADA to provide funds to transport a small group of fishermen from Caribbean countries to the Nova Scotia Fisheries Training Centre in Pictou where they would be taught some basic skills that would be of use to them when they returned home.

VADA has also been requested to provide funds to transport Canadian instructors from the Nova Scotia centre to return with the trained fishermen to help them integrate their newly-learned skills in their home environment.

New Brunswick is proposing to lend junior agriculturalists to VADA to work with CIDA experts in the field for two years at a time.

Prince Edward Island, with the help of Saskatchewan, at this same meeting in Halifax, announced it is in the process of drafting a formal proposal to VADA that it hold an international consultation that would promote an exchange of views on the problems, opportunities and challenges facing the small

farming sector in Canada and the Third World.

The Prince Edward Island proposal would bring together some subsistence farmers from the Third World, some owners of family farms from Prince Edward Island and other participating provinces, and Canadian and international agricultural experts. While in Canada, farmers would discuss ways of solving problems common to Canada and the Third World—rural depopulation, subsistence farming, and maintaining the family farm as a basic unit of production.

Provincial delegates to the VADA meeting gave unanimous support to the ambitious Prince Edward Island conference idea. It may take up to two years to plan, if Third World farmers are to meet with Canadian farmers in provinces other than Prince Edward Island, as some VADA members would like.

Saskatchewan announced that it is ready to ship a second large quantity of Dimehoate insecticide through the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) for use in their Desert Locust Control Organization in Ethiopia, Sudan, Somalia and Yemen.

In addition, that province plans to send agricultural technicians to Lesotho and Cameroon under the joint sponsorship of VADA and the Saskatchewan Agricultural Development Corporation.

These program proposals herald not only the branching out of Saskatchewan into a non-food-aid program and the entry of the first Atlantic provinces into the program area of VADA, but are indications of provincial initiatives to expand the projects undertaken by VADA. In this way the organization's potential in the field of agricultural development assistance is starting to be met.

This does not imply that other provinces have not made substantial contributions to the program in other ways. They have to date—with the exception of the Ontario, Quebec, and British

Columbia shipments of cattle semen, for breeding purposes—generally been in the “food aid” rather than the “agricultural development” area of VADA activities. [See chart, p. 9]

Provincial contributions of food aid are assisted by the federal government mainly through VADA's “grants in support of voluntary shipments” provisions. Under this plan, the federal government will grant funds to support voluntary shipments of food aid and goods for agricultural projects to developing countries recognized by CIDA as aid recipients. Regulations governing these grants are minimal—shipments must have a minimum value of \$25,000 and shipping charges must not be more than 70 per cent of the material worth of the shipment.

The aforementioned proposals indicate, however, that the provinces are promoting the evolution of VADA to incorporate more “agricultural development assistance programs” in fulfillment of its original mandate.

The mandate of the VADA program was an outgrowth of a proposal made by Saskatchewan's Premier Allan Blakeney and supported by all other provinces at a 1975 meeting of provincial premiers with the prime minister following the Rome Food Conference.

The first priority of VADA—born in the wake of the disastrous crop failures, food shortages and mass starvation in portions of the Third World in the early 1970s—has been to encourage increased food production in developing countries.

This objective corresponds to Canada's official international development co-operation strategy for the five year period, 1975-1980.

The twice-yearly federal-provincial VADA meetings are generally free from the “political” stances, attention from the news media, and dramatic announcements that often characterize federal-provincial conferences on matters of vital national concern.

Instead, they tend to be amicable consultations attended by about 20 participants—one from each province, a chairman from CIDA, and representatives of some federal departments—agriculture, industry, trade and commerce, external affairs, and of course, CIDA.

Although all provinces and federal agencies, as members of VADA, are dedicated to improving Canada's development assistance to the Third World, it would be wrong to imply that there are no differences of opinion among the provinces about what VADA is or what it should become.

Perhaps Bob Maclean, special assistant to Nova Scotia's fisheries ministry and a member of VADA since its inception, put it best when he said “every province puts something different into VADA and also derives something different out of it.”

He said that his province doesn't have much money to support international development directly although it supports the principle—hence the small scale nature of Nova Scotia's proposed training of some Third World fishermen.

Prince Edward Island's proposal that VADA sponsor an international consultation on the problems of small farms is seen by that province's VADA representative, David Catmur, as a potential “mutual learning experience” for participating Canadian and Third World farmers.

The fact is that these non-commodity, food-production-oriented education proposals do not imply that these two provinces have no interest in providing food aid to the Third World. Delegates from both provinces voiced strong objections to the fact that the vast majority of Canada's food aid comes from the Western provinces.

Mr. Catmur, research director for the agriculture department of Prince Edward Island, said his province's under-utilized agricultural capacity could be developed under contract to CIDA to provide food aid. Mr. Maclean of

Nova Scotia suggested that technology could be developed to make fish products available as food aid to developing countries.

Spokesmen from both CIDA and Agriculture Canada said there is no easy solution to integrating the Atlantic provinces into the food aid and commodities programs, which are largely under the general direction of international organizations.

Ontario has voiced the opinion that the federal government should be responsible for food aid policy and programs on behalf of all Canadians. Nevertheless, that province has in the past and says it is likely to continue to provide food aid to relief organizations through VADA.

Delegates from Manitoba, Alberta and Quebec expressed the opinion that it is not necessary for all VADA members to initiate programs for it to be a valuable forum for discussion of all aspects of Canada's foreign policies and programs.

Despite these differing views of the provincial role in development assistance and each

province's individual role in international development assistance, all delegates agree VADA is a useful forum for an exchange of views. VADA is also an opportunity for provinces to keep abreast of the federal government's participation in such multilateral international organizations as the World Food Program, Food and Agriculture Organization, and the newly-formed International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).

Spokesmen from CIDA also answer provincial delegates' questions on other aspects of CIDA policies such as those pertaining to the non-governmental organizations sector.

According to VADA's administrator, William Burnett, the future direction of VADA comes up for discussion at every meeting. He says some want it to provide provincial input into federal development assistance policies, while others would like it to remain a forum for discussion, information exchange between provinces and

CIDA, and an informal mechanism for voicing provincial concerns and suggestions to the federal government on Canada's development assistance programs.

Some would like VADA to widen its mandate to include provincial input into all types of CIDA programs while others feel that its "agricultural development assistance" orientation is its most appropriate focus.

Saskatchewan's VADA delegate, Ken Johns, supported by Mr. Catmur of Prince Edward Island, has put forth the idea that all forms of federal-provincial development assistance programs should be channelled through an organization that would be "something between a crown corporation and a private corporation." He says such an organization would concentrate on providing technical assistance from the provinces.

Pierre Sicard, vice-president of CIDA's Resources Branch, who served as chairman of a VADA meeting for the first time at the recent Halifax

gathering, said he views VADA as a forum for the provincial governments to tell the federal government what they would like to contribute to international development.

Mr. Burnett, who has been VADA's administrator since its inception, says he is sure that the future of VADA—or some similar federal-provincial organization—is secure because of increasing provincial desires for future involvement in international development assistance, albeit in varying degrees and in varying ways.

A major question facing the organization in the long run is whether or not the scope of VADA will be enlarged so that it would no longer be restricted to food and agriculture issues but could be part of a wider forum of which VADA will be only one element.

The next meeting of VADA is set for October 24 and 25 in Ottawa. **DD**

Sharleen Bannon is editor of DEVELOPMENT DIRECTIONS

VADA: federal-provincial programs

| Province | Provincial Contribution | Value of Provincial Contribution | Federal Contribution | Value of Federal Contribution | Destination of Shipment | Year |
|--|--|----------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|--|------------|
| British Columbia | 50,000 pounds of milk powder through Food For the Hungry | \$36,000 | shipping costs | \$29,300 | Food for the Hungry refugee camps in Lebanon | Jan. 1977 |
| Ontario | 200 tonnes white pea beans through International Red Cross /Red Crescent | \$52,439 | shipping costs | \$9,450 | Sahel region Algeria-Morocco | Dec. 1976 |
| | 200 tonnes white pea beans through International Red Cross | \$52,000 | shipping costs | \$35,775 | Families of political prisoners in Chile | Dec. 1976 |
| | Purebred Holstein heifers | \$101,400 (approx.) | shipping costs | \$19,180 | Brazil—superior school of Agriculture (Mossoro) | July 1977 |
| | 200 tonnes white pea beans through International Red Cross | \$54,300 | shipping costs | \$17,245 | Sahel region Algeria-Morocco International Red-Cross-Red Crescent | April 1977 |
| | 10,500 cases assorted baby food | \$33,349 | shipping costs | \$5,899 | Haiti-Grace Hospital, Port au Prince | July 1977 |
| Quebec | seeds, agricultural implements, clothing, food | \$40,000 | shipping costs | \$4,942 | Compagnie de Marie church group, Haiti | Dec. 1977 |
| | foodstuffs, clothes for rural workers | \$55,914 | shipping costs | \$13,077 | hospitals in Haiti | June 1977 |
| Saskatchewan | 17 tonnes Hopper spray insecticide | \$55,680 | shipping costs | \$7,020 | Food and Agriculture Organization's Desert Locust Control Organization for insect control in Ethiopia, Sudan, Somalia and Yemen. | Jan. 1978 |
| Quebec, Ontario, British Columbia, (3-year joint project) (through Canadian Hunger Foundation) | 20,900 doses frozen dairy cattle semen | \$82,600 | shipping costs | \$6,442 | India-Bharitia Agro Industry Foundation, Uruli Kanchen | March 1977 |
| | 1,800 straws of frozen dairy cattle semen | \$9,010 | shipping costs | \$77,300 | India-Punjab Dairy Development Corp. | Feb. 1977 |
| | 8,000 straws of frozen dairy cattle semen | \$34,600 | shipping costs | \$34,000 | India-Bharitia Agro Industry Foundation Uruli Kanchen | Jan. 1978 |

Foreign students in Canada The need for changes

CIDA's reduction of the number of foreign students from developing countries it sponsors to study in Canada is "deplorable," in the opinion of Dr. Arnold Smith, former Secretary General of the Commonwealth, and now President of the Canadian Bureau for International Education (CBIE).

The CBIE, a resource centre for educational institutions, organizations and individuals concerned with international education within Canada and abroad, held its annual conference in Toronto in January, and 120 educators, administrators, government officials, diplomats, and students gathered to discuss the issues surrounding the education of foreign students in Canada.

Speaking at the conference, Dr. Smith noted that training foreign students is a "privilege" for Canada and an important contribution to international development. He called CIDA's new policy an example of "regrettable short-sightedness."

He conceded, however, that the measures were the result of limitations on government spending imposed by Treasury Board. Lewis Perinbam, vice-president of special programs

at CIDA, agreed that this was indeed the case, but that the issue should be re-examined. He suggested that the CBIE go before a Parliamentary Committee to inform legislators of the problem.

Mr. Perinbam also noted that while numbers of Third World students coming to Canada had been decreased, CIDA was sponsoring more students in regional institutions near their homelands. This "third-country training" is often more relevant to the needs of the student and his country.

Dr. Smith stated that there should be plenty of room for both the education of Third World students in Canada and third-country training. "The numbers needing training are great," he said.

Increased fees for foreign students, introduced by the governments of Ontario and Alberta, also came in for criticism from delegates. So did the federal government's new immigration law which will make it more difficult for foreign students to come to Canada. Some commented that these measures only served to restrict Canadian education to the wealthy students from abroad.

Many delegates emphasized the benefits to Canada of the presence of foreign students in this country, noting their value as a learning resource for Canadian students. Dr. Joe Mestenhauser of the University of Minnesota conducted a workshop to explain ways of learning with foreign students, using them directly as a resource.

Others stressed the importance of bonds made with students who return to their countries and take up senior posts in government or the private sector. Mr. Perinbam noted that these students "personify the opportunities we have for relationships with the world."

Such questions of Canada's self-interest were weighed in the light of the needs of the foreign students themselves and their countries. Spokesmen for developing countries presented the view from abroad.

Ann Trouth, second secretary with the Jamaican Embassy, spoke of the continuing need for professionals and skilled workers in the Caribbean region. She said liberal employment and immigration regulations in Canada in the 60s encouraged a brain drain from the Caribbean.

More stringent regulations have stemmed this trend and Caribbean governments are making efforts to encourage students to return home. The need for education abroad still exists, however, and Miss Trouth called for more professional schools for foreign students in Canada and more assistance from the Canadian government for the education of foreign students in Canadian post-secondary institutions.

Akubakar Bagobiri, second secretary at the Nigerian High Commission spoke of education as a significant part of the nation-building efforts of Nigeria. Many schools and universities were being built but teachers to staff them are scarce. So the need for higher education abroad is still pressing.

The conference succeeded in looking at the issues from many perspectives and delegates felt that the exchange was valuable. CBIE has published a series called "Papers on Foreign Student Issues," which is available for \$15 from the Canadian Bureau for International Education, 151 Slater St., Suite 408, Ottawa, Canada K1P 5H3.

by Lynne Racine

CIDA briefs MPs on population issues

Canada's participation in population programs in developing countries was the subject of discussion at two briefings for three members of Parliament interested in population issues, held at CIDA offices in January and February.

The briefings were for Dr. Frank Philbrook (Liberal - Halton), Dr. Bruce Halliday (P.C. - Oxford), and Dr. Frank Maine (Liberal - Wellington), who are members of an international, informal working group of parliamentarians concerned with population and development issues.

The parliamentarians, from Japan, Germany, Britain, and the U.S. as well as Canada, began work in December at UN-sponsored meetings in London and Berlin. Invitations to

other developed nations and to developing countries have been extended. The next meeting will take place in Tokyo.

Staff from CIDA and the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) explained Canada's programs in the population sector to the MPs. IDRC supports research to adapt science and technology to the needs of developing countries, and about 10 to 12 per cent of its budget is spent in the population field.

Paul Ladouceur of CIDA's Multilateral Branch explained that most of CIDA's support for population programs is provided through multilateral institutions: the UN Fund for Population Activities (Canada provides 7.3 per cent of their funds), the International Planned Parenthood

Federation (8.2 per cent) and the Human Reproduction Program at the World Health Organization (11 per cent).

CIDA's bilateral (direct country-to-country) assistance in population programs is not extensive. Roger Dumelie of CIDA's Bilateral Branch explained that population projects are demanding of administrative resources. Mr. Ladouceur also noted that they usually demand a high percentage of local input and that governments of developing countries do not normally look to Canada for bilateral assistance in the population sector.

According to Mr. Ladouceur the neutrality of multilateral aid is attractive to developing countries, and governments of developing countries know which

institutions and countries can provide help in which sectors. For help in population programs they look to Sweden, the U.S., the World Bank or UNFPA, but rarely to Canada.

Dr. C. W. L. Jeanes and Dr. Charles Nobbe, CIDA's special advisers on health and population, both emphasized that Canada has the technical expertise, and that much more could be done. Dr. Nobbe suggested in particular that more co-financing with the World Bank could be explored, and also that more emphasis should be placed on basic health care as a component of rural development programs.

by Lynne Racine

WIPO:

a patent way to development

by Jeff Endrst

Patenting is the first step to industrial development.

So says WIPO which stands for World Intellectual Property Organization, a United Nations specialized agency which came into being only in 1974. Nevertheless its various branches had been in the business of protecting the creative talents of the developed world since the end of the 19th century.

Under the UN umbrella, WIPO's priorities are changing on the theory that no one group of countries has the monopoly on intellectual property. This makes WIPO's services important to developing countries.

The role of this agency was recently discussed in an interview with Ketty Liguer-Laubhouet, formerly director of the Ivory Coast's National Library and currently WIPO's Deputy Director-General.

She offered as an illustration the imaginary case of a Mr. Ali in developing country "X". Mr. Ali wants to set up a farm machinery factory but his country has no such industry and imported machines are expensive.

As in most other developing countries, there is no patent office to go to and there is no central documentation office to consult. Mr. Ali's best bet, therefore, is to write to WIPO headquarters in Geneva, or to the WIPO-assisted International Patent Documentation Centre (INPADOC) in Vienna, and ask them for information. Mr. Ali could thus consult available patents, select the machine of his choice, and then try to negotiate a license to manufacture the product himself.

This process can be reversed, of course. Mr. Ali could invent a new machine which he could then patent, and sell the license to use his invention and his know-how to others.

Mrs. Liguer-Laubhouet used this oversimplified example to show that WIPO can help developing countries by providing information which eases the transfer of technology.

WIPO's origins go back to the 1880s when the Paris Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property and the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works were

drawn up. The international bureaus of the two agencies merged in 1893 and came to be known as the United International Bureau for the Protection of Intellectual Property.

At present, WIPO has 73 member countries and a staff of 180. The organization is funded by its membership and it also receives funds from fees it charges for international registration of trademarks. The agency oversees the application of the Paris Convention regarding inventions, designs and trademarks—or industrial property. The Paris Convention is presently being revised to reflect better the interests of developing countries.

The Vienna International Patent Documentation Centre remains immensely useful as an information bank, says Mrs. Liguer-Laubhouet. It computerizes key data on almost one million patent documents a year from 42 countries which issue 98 per cent of the world's patents. It provides the data to patent offices, industries and research and development institutions. The work of international classification, patenting

WIPO's priorities are changing on the theory that no one group has the monopoly on intellectual property.

and registration will be considerably furthered by three agreements. They are the International Patent Classification Agreement; the Patent Cooperation Treaty; and the Trademark Registration Treaty.

The first of these is in force and is already used by patent offices in some 40 countries. The other two agreements are awaiting ratification. The Patent Treaty will centralize and simplify the patent application process to enable inventors to apply for patents in several countries at the same time. This is known as a search for "prior art."

According to Mrs. Liguer-Laubhouet, the developing countries can negotiate for the reproduction or translation of works for teaching purposes. If no agreement can be reached with the copyright holder as to transfer of the right and payment, there is the "compulsory license." This means that if a publishing house in a "have-not" country wants to publish a book by a French or English author in a local language for use in schools, and the author insists on conditions or a price which appears unreasonable for this purpose, the publisher in the develop-

ing country turns to his Ministry of Culture. The Ministry then tries to negotiate a "reasonable compromise." If the copyright holder still refuses the offer, the Ministry can advise the local publisher to go ahead with the project, but to pay the copyright holder perhaps two-thirds of the asking price. This process is called "compulsory license."

Compulsory licenses also exist for patents. According to Mrs. Liguer-Laubhouet, however, price is oddly enough not the biggest complaint the developing countries have about the Paris Convention. They want the right to purchase technology and to get the know-how that goes with it. It does not help to have the patent holder set up a factory if the knowledge to run it is not also provided. But even if they get all the revisions in the Paris Convention they want, and even if they did not have to pay for the licenses, the developing countries for the most part still are not organized to handle patents. This is because they don't have modern legislation and they don't have a trained administrative staff to apply such legislation.

WIPO is trying to remedy this situation in several ways. It is drawing up model laws on inventions and know-how, on copyright, and on trademarks for developing countries. It trains nationals from these countries to be patent office administrators.

It is currently involved in a five-year program to help Brazil modernize its patent system. WIPO has assisted Algeria and the Sudan with their intellectual property laws. It recently advised the Nigerian government on how to improve its industrial property office. In addition, WIPO is helping the Industrial Development Centre for Arab States, and the African Intellectual Property Organization to set up regional patent documentation centres. And it is bolstering the efforts of the English-speaking African countries to establish a regional industrial property office.

Mrs. Liguer-Laubhouet notes that many developing countries have inherited their membership in the Conventions from former colonial powers. She feels that it is in the interest of developing countries to organize their intellectual property laws and offices not just to obtain foreign technology, but to attain their own development. **DD**

Jeff Endrst is a journalist based at the United Nations in New York who specializes in international issues and Third World development. He is a correspondent for several newspapers in Canada and the United States.

A new rationale for domestic policy formation and international co-operation strategies

Identification of new approaches for national and international development policies based on the theme of "environment and development" is the subject of an ongoing series of workshops held by CIDA's Prospective Unit (Policy Branch) in co-operation with the Advance Concepts Centre, Environment Canada.

The decision to hold the workshops grew out of the conviction that environment and development are interrelated issues which must be dealt with on a concerted basis in a long-range perspective if major global problems are to be avoided.

Growing social unrest linked to increasing dissatisfaction with the current pattern of life (unemployment, inflation, value changes) in the industrialized countries, and the rejection of a mimetic adoption of the Western model in Third World countries have raised questions about the conventional assumption that development must primarily be viewed in economic terms and be considered as almost equivalent to economic growth.

This assumption is no longer valid as it becomes clearer that economic growth alone does not lead to increased social satisfaction, nor does it enable one to tackle the growing socio-political challenges of our times.

By and large in the Third World it is accepted today that a development strategy based on the Western model could only upset the nation's economic, social and cultural balance internally and lead to dependence externally.

The impact of conventional development activities on the earth's biological system has caused increasing anxiety about the future ability of this system to provide the resources and amenities necessary for a decent life for all.

Indeed, the basic truth that development can be sustained only if it is environmentally sound has been rediscovered and re-affirmed, ever since the 1972 Stockholm Conference on Human Environment, which created a global awareness about relationships between environmental problems and development strategies.

The most recent of the CIDA-Environment Canada eco-development workshops was held last December. It explored ways and means of translating "environment and development" con-

cepts into actions and on developing a strategy to carry them out.

Representatives from several government departments and agencies, the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), the Science Council and the Economic Council of Canada, as well as from universities, attended the three-day workshop held at Environment Canada headquarters in Hull, Quebec.

The successful implementation of eco-development, a term coined by a Canadian, Maurice Strong, when he was executive director of the United Nations Environment Program, means knowing how to take advantage of the potential resources of the environment. In other words, it is the demonstration of resourcefulness through an ecologically prudent adaptation of the environment to man's needs.

This approach applies as much to the solution of Canada's problems as to those of developing countries. This mutuality of interest between Canada and some developing countries, as well as the need to link national development and international co-operation policies, is one of the major thrusts of the joint CIDA-Environment Canada venture.

The need for a new type of growth is by now widely recognized. Indeed, eco-development projects, strategies, and institutions are already at work in many parts of the Third World, and there are not many countries left which have not yet started to use eco-development approaches.

There is also a growing number of declarations by political leaders of industrialized countries, which reflect growing political awareness of the environment and development.

The 1977 CIDA-Environment Canada workshop identified some areas of significant common interest for Canada and the Third World countries. They are for instance, fuels from biomass and organic waste, solar energy, aquaculture, the management of domestic water supplies, and public urban transport.

As the report on this seminar mentions, the prime criteria for deciding upon specific proposals, would include relevance to the developing country's needs, relevance to Canadian political priorities concerning jobs or exports, and the potential as prototypes for pos-

sible application elsewhere. The identification of project possibilities at local levels should stress a "grass root activation" through participatory identification of opportunities as well as shared decisions to design and carry out project activities.

The 1977 seminar had three workshop groups on "International Co-operation and Development," "Environmental and Resource Management" and "Human Settlement and Social Issues." While many aspects of those themes obviously surpassed the narrow limits of the workshop themes, every workshop came up with a coherent set of recommendations for action, to be submitted to the top management of the participating government departments or agencies.

Top officials of Environment Canada, IDRC, and CIDA supported the recommendations on Canada's international co-operation and development strategies which call for a broadening of CIDA's policies, programs and activities in the field of eco-development.

The recommendations included that a review of some CIDA projects be conducted in order to include an eco-development component. Other recommendations included a proposed consultation between interested parties in Canada and a group of selected Third World countries, with a view to implementing a multilateral program of scientific, technical and economic co-operation.

The seminar participants also proposed that the auspices of CIDA, the IDRC, and a network of institutions in both industrial and Third World countries be used to improve the international flow of information in the areas of scientific and technological research, appropriate technology and experiences of a "grass-root" generation of the development process. **DD**

Reports on the CIDA-Environment Canada seminars and other eco-development publications are available from the Prospective Unit, Policy Branch, CIDA, 200 rue Principale, Hull, Quebec, Canada K1A 0G4.

**Charles Jeanneret
and Marc-André Fredette**

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DISASTER RELIEF

GETTING CO-ORDINATED

by Lynne Racine

Disasters strike with all the subtlety of sledgehammer blows, shattering the lives of hundreds and sometimes thousands of people. They generally wreak their havoc in the world's poor countries, haplessly situated in the paths of hurricanes, in earthquake zones, or in drought-stricken or flood-prone areas.

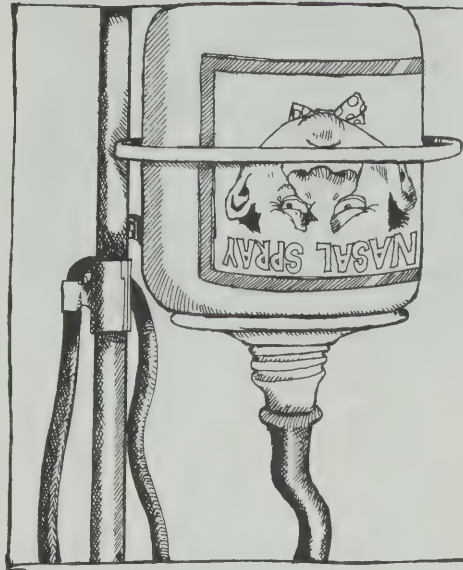
Dr. Michel Léchat, an expert in disaster research, at the University of Louvain in Belgium defines a disaster as "any unforeseen and sudden situation with which the affected community cannot cope."

So when a disaster strikes the wheels of a huge machine leap into motion. International communication networks spread the news and within hours plane-loads of medicines, food, and rescue volunteers arrive on the scene.

But is this assistance always effective? Dr. E. K. Kroeger, of the University of Heidelberg, another expert in the field, states that "national and international relief has never been satisfactorily organized or co-ordinated in any way. The chaos caused by the disaster is made even greater by incompetent assistance."

Reports from Guatemala indicated that the biggest problem the country had to contend with after the 1976 earthquake was the arrival of plane-load after plane-load of unsorted medical supplies. Volunteers spent valuable time sorting medical supplies when they could have been more useful elsewhere. Sixteen days after the earthquake there were at least 100 tons of unsorted medicines in Guatemala City. Timing of the shipments had been poor too, with unnecessary vitamins, antacids and nasal sprays arriving almost immediately after the earthquake, while badly needed blood plasma arrived much too late to do any good.

The actors in the disaster relief scenario are national governments of the beset and other countries, United Nations agencies, the Red Cross and voluntary agencies, independent volunteers, and the affected people themselves. Co-ordination of such a diverse group in a chaotic situation is an overwhelming task. The pressure from the media and governments at home to do things quickly often



leads to speedy but inappropriate decisions.

What then are the prospects for co-ordination of relief efforts? Fred Smith, CIDA's co-ordinator for international emergency relief for the past 12 years, says "with few exceptions, the major powers don't seem to want co-ordination." The United Nations Disaster Relief Organization (UNDRO), set up in 1972 to co-ordinate relief, "has terms of reference that are far too broad, causing confusion about its aims".

Many donors also wonder, he says, "whether the UN has the capacity to perform valid but impartial assessments given that it would be impolitic for it to do much more than accept what demands are placed on it by member states."

To be an effective international co-ordinator UNDRO would require the support of all national governments, but "there is a divergence of opinion among national governments, on how they like to react to a disaster," says Mr. Smith. "Some want to respond immediately in a way that is high profile. This provokes governments of the opposite political camp to reciprocate. And then there are governments like ourselves, which try to keep a low profile and provide appropriate assistance."

There is also no doubt that international regulation of relief efforts could spell an end to the dumping of food surpluses, an activity in which most donor governments indulge. The occurrence of a disaster in a disadvantaged country is viewed as an opportunity to get rid of tons of unwanted food in the name of humanitarian assistance.

After the 1976 earthquake in Guatemala, one donor flooded the Guatemalan market with grain, despite the fact that local grain stocks were adequate. The price of local corn was driven down and farmers were severely affected.

In addition to short-term detrimental effects on the economy, large unnecessary food shipments are a disincentive to local agricultural production. So as long as disaster relief is seen as a vehicle for dumping and for making political hay through high profile assistance, there seems little hope of international co-ordination among national governments.

What about co-ordination on other levels? One group that is highly co-ordinated internationally is the Red Cross. [See sidebar, p. 14.] With headquarters in Geneva, it has 125 sister societies and operates under a series of international conventions and protocols which afford it latitude within the afflicted country.

The international structure of some of the larger voluntary agencies lends a degree of co-ordination to the work of their national components. But no effective formal body exists to co-ordinate work among the different agencies.

In contrast to the Red Cross, voluntary agencies generally emphasize the second (or reconstruction) phase over the first (or emergency) phase. However, some agencies feel they can also help in the first phase. Fred Smith notes that the first phase involves medical help and emergency feeding, "pursuits that require serious forethought."

"The introduction of expatriate expertise," he says, "is not advisable unless the people involved can be protected under some universally acceptable umbrella arrangement or treaty. The legal rights of such people are not clear, nor is the protection they might receive in the case of malpractice suits."

For this reason, Mr. Smith advises health volunteers to register with the Red Cross which does offer such protection.

The dividing line between the relief and reconstruction phases is not always clear. This can be a cause for contention between the Red Cross and voluntary agencies.

A clearer understanding of the limitations and the areas of responsibility of the Red Cross and the agencies in the two

Lynne Racine has been an information officer with CIDA for three years and is now assistant editor of *Development Directions*.

DISASTER RELIEF

THE RED CROSS POINT OF VIEW



Daily the headlines screamed the latest disaster tolls. Ten, then twenty thousand killed. One million, then 1.5 million homeless. The earthquake that struck Guatemala in February two years ago shocked and horrified millions of people around the world.

At times like these the Red Cross, the world's foremost disaster relief organization, is on the scene. The relief it provides is a double-edged entity: rescue, food, shelter and medical help for those suffering the throes of the disaster, as well as the relief felt by people thousands of miles away who know that someone is there helping.

Relief after the Guatemala earthquake can be classified as one of the major successes of Red Cross work, not only because \$22,235,000 (U.S.) has been raised to date for relief and rehabilitation work, but also because the Guatemala relief operation was an example of relief agency co-operation, resulting in the most efficient relief program possible.

There was, of course, plenty of the frantic around-the-clock mayhem inherent in all relief operations. Red-Cross-trained personnel fought exhaustion as they found work for the thousands of untrained volunteers who appeared on the scene. They sorted through mountains of donated clothing trying to ignore the after-tremors that shook the Guatemalan ground for two weeks after the major quake.

At the core of all the apparent confusion was the calm, co-ordinated field relief of the Red Cross. The year before, a delegate from the Geneva-based League of Red Cross Societies, the international body of the Red Cross, had begun to develop a pre-disaster relief plan, and had begun implementing a national disaster preparedness program.

The national Red Cross societies from all Central American countries had formed a mutual aid agreement with a communication centre in Panama City. They were the first to hear of the earthquake, so the Honduran Red Cross reached some of the northern areas of Guatemala long before the Guatemalan Red Cross. The Nicaraguan Red Cross had emergency relief detachments on the road with tents, and the El Salva-

dor and Costa Rican Red Cross had their medical teams with fully-equipped rescue units arriving in Guatemala within hours.

It was a terrible disaster, yet it was just one of many the Red Cross assisted in that year. In fact, the League of Red Cross Societies receives a call for disaster assistance on the average of once every 21 days.

The appeals are not necessarily worldwide and usually fall into one of three categories: natural disasters such as earthquakes or hurricanes, armed conflicts, or slow disasters such as drought. Information can come in a variety of ways. The Geneva office of the League is equipped with teletype machines of Agence France Presse. The League also enjoys a close working relationship with the United Nations Disaster Relief Office (UNDRO), and other voluntary agencies. League delegates on assignment over the world regularly send in reports of slow disasters or of impending slow disasters.

Normally the League would telex the national society of the afflicted country a message of sympathy and ask whether or not they would like help from the League. If however, the disaster is of a significant magnitude, the League contacts the national society and dispatches a delegate within 24 to 48 hours.

The League will not launch an appeal for relief funds unless the national society of the affected country requests it. The national society will never make such a request unless it is sure the disaster is too great to be handled locally.

The national Red Cross society always seeks the approval of the government before launching an appeal. However, if the politics of a country is opposed to an international appeal, such as was the case of last year's cyclones in India, then the League has the right to take the initiative to launch an appeal, provided the society is agreeable.

Because disasters—coping with them and preparing for them—are the *raison d'être* of the League, it has a "guarantee fund" up to \$40,000 it can commit instantaneously to any country in need. The fund is contributed to by Red Cross societies from 20 countries who have agreed to provide \$2,000 each, if sufficient funds are not received to cover appeal needs.

Cash is the commodity most in demand in times of disaster. Food, clothing medical supplies and other relief commodities can and should be purchased in or near the afflicted country rather than shipped at high expense from donor nations. Often, however, a

disaster can tip a country's precarious supply and demand balance, resulting in skyrocketing prices.

To counteract this, the League often authorizes purchases of supplies from another country or digs into the reserve of one of its four international warehouses where it stockpiles blankets, tents and other supplies.

The second most important commodity sent by the League is the trained disaster relief personnel. The Red Cross mandate focuses on providing immediate relief: food, clothing and medical attention. That is why the Red Cross is known as "the fire brigade" of relief agencies. It is also why the Red Cross can maintain close and co-operative working relations with other agencies who focus more on long-term rehabilitation work.

The League delegate advises the local national society after making a clear and professional assessment of the damage and the death toll, so the national society can tell the League exactly what goods and services are needed.

However, when cyclones and a tidal wave struck the southeastern coastal states of Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu in India last November, the Indian Red Cross and League delegates were unable to reach some of the hardest-hit and more remote areas. Accurate statistics and a full assessment of the scene were impossible yet necessary.

The relief officer is often stationed in the more remote areas when the disaster strikes with no means of communicating with relief headquarters. Often the full assessment can take weeks. Although the cyclones struck India in mid-November, it wasn't until February that the League telexed all member societies the finalized relief plan and budget for reconstruction.

Although the rehabilitation program does stretch the usual emergency relief mandate given the Red Cross in times of disaster, it has occurred in countries other than India.

As the Tansley report assessing the role of the Red Cross has stated: "Since World War II the Red Cross has played a role in almost every major international disaster. The Red Cross has always responded. It is an expected presence."

That same report contains perhaps the most realistic assessment of the Red Cross disaster relief work. It stated: "In a field in which no one performs satisfactorily the Red Cross performs relatively well." DD

by Catherine Dunphy

Catherine Dunphy, a reporter and magazine writer for eight years, is now a writer/editor for the Canadian Red Cross Society's public relations office in Toronto.

relief phases seems necessary if any attempts at co-ordination are to be made.

Within Canada, the Canadian Council for International Co-operation (CCIC), an association of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) involved in development, has been making efforts to bring NGOs together to explore possibilities for making disaster relief more effective.

Many NGOs who have been involved in joint campaigns are hesitant to involve themselves in the practical difficulties of setting up a group such as Britain's Disaster Emergencies Committee, consisting of the Red Cross and five NGOs. Canadian NGOs often prefer to be left to their own devices when raising funds and responding to disasters. However, some kind of pooling of resources seems desirable if formalized co-ordination at least among the NGOs and the Red Cross, let alone at the government level, is to be achieved.

Without organized co-ordination between governments and voluntary agencies, what prospects are there for better co-ordinated disaster relief? In the past decade a number of doctors, health administrators and other professionals who have worked in disaster relief have begun publishing the results of their studies.

Disaster research institutions, such as the Research Centre in Disaster Epidemiology at the University of Louvain in Belgium, and the Disaster Research Centre at Ohio State University in the U.S., have been established and are making public the results of their research.

Dr. Léchat, director of the Centre at Louvain, has stated that awareness of the need for disaster management has been heightened and "the emphasis is now moving from post-disaster improvisation to pre-disaster preparedness."

The Red Cross emphasizes pre-disaster planning as part of its mandate, and researchers have suggested the establishment of national disaster committees to define relief procedures ahead of time in readiness for disaster. Immediately after the Guatemala earthquake, a generally effective national emergency committee was set up. The role of the national government is critical.

Studies in the health field, which is of primary importance in disaster relief, have identified types of health mismanagement, and the findings of the studies have gradually been integrated into the pre-disaster plans of relief organizations. Dr. Léchat and his colleagues point out that progress has been slow. But they state that in health management "the 1976 Guatemala earthquake and the response to it have provided some encouraging signs of appropriate disaster management; at the same time, they have



Rubble blocks street in San Andrés Itzapa, one of two villages Canada undertook to rebuild after the Guatemala earthquake. Photo: CIDA

helped reveal areas where further improvement is needed."

Sociological research has revealed the resourcefulness of the people directly affected by a disaster. Developing countries are the least prepared technologically to deal with disasters, but much to the surprise of sophisticated Westerners, they are often the most prepared in human terms. After all, having faced deprivation and disasters more often, the people are better able to cope with them.

Far from running about aimlessly in a state of shock, or waiting passively for outside help, victims set to work meeting immediate emergency needs, rescuing and treating the injured, finding food and building temporary shelters.

"Today's act of God may be seen tomorrow as an act of criminal negligence"

This is not to deny the need for outside help, but to emphasize that the resources and adaptive abilities of the local people are often underestimated, to the detriment of the relief effort.

All of these findings, based on the observations of qualified people who have witnessed disasters and disaster assistance, have served to better inform relief agencies and relief workers of the importance of pre-disaster planning and proper disaster management. In this respect some degree of informal co-ordination is being introduced.

What remains is the need for governments and voluntary agencies to inform the public of the complexities of disaster relief. Often, outsiders tactlessly attempt to provide relief without considering local needs.

One account of the earthquake relief in Guatemala noted a bulldozer driver's pro-

posal to flatten the ruined buildings of a town, clear away all the rubble, and reorganize the street plan. The "rubble" was vital material needed for reconstruction—timber and adobe dust—and the rearrangement of the streets would have upset all land-tenure, not to mention upsetting the lives of the villagers.

This type of short-sighted willingness to help extends to the well-meaning donors here at home and in other countries. News of a disaster provokes an automatic humanitarian response that is translated into donations of all kinds, from cash to blankets to peanut butter to high-heeled shoes. Some have varying degrees of relevance to each disaster. Some are totally irrelevant.

The most valuable and appropriate donation is always cash. The money can be spent as close to the scene as possible and converted to goods and services that are most needed, in the judgement of the people on the spot.

Volunteers should find out if they are really needed or can actually be of service. A report from Guatemala told of the "uncertain motives and dubious qualifications" of some volunteers and was critical of medical "tourists" who kept arriving after the number of physicians meeting disaster-associated needs had been met. They placed a drain on transport equipment and then left after the acute emergency phase had ended. Few medical relief teams expected to contribute to the re-establishment of normal health care activities.

The restoration of normal conditions after a disaster is as important as the assistance during the emergency phase. Unfortunately, this reconstruction work does not draw the same attention as the more dramatic first phase.

It is extremely important that effective reconstruction work be done to avoid unnecessary suffering when the next disaster strikes. In Guatemala, houses constructed of heavy adobe blocks and roof tiles fell on the inhabitants causing most of the 23,000 deaths. Reconstructed houses made of some adobe along with lumber and steel roofing should prevent this danger the next time.

Failing such thought and effort in reconstruction, the next disaster could be worse in its toll. In the words of one expert, "Today's act of God may be seen tomorrow as an act of criminal negligence."

The monitoring of disaster relief and reconstruction by recognized experts in the field is vital to the improvement of relief efforts. However, there is no doubt that more co-operative efforts at all levels are necessary if proper disaster management is to be enforced when the next disaster strikes. DD

DISASTER RELIEF

A VIEW FROM SOME CANADIAN VOLUNTARY AGENCIES

by Dennis Schroeder

When an earthquake, cyclone, or other disaster strikes, there is a genuine outpouring of sympathy and support from around the world for the victims of the disaster.

Canadians have been generous, making available money, food, clothing, medicine, building materials and other supplies, and many Canadians have offered their services to help alleviate suffering and rebuild devastated areas.

Several Canadian church organizations, as well as agencies such as UNICEF Canada, Care Canada, the Canadian Save the Children Fund (Cansave), and Oxfam Canada, have been involved for many years in supporting disaster relief services in many countries.

Some of these non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have had long experience and have developed expertise in disaster relief work. For example, the Lutheran Church and other church organizations actively assisted people in Europe following the Second World War. The Mennonite Central Committee began relief work in 1920 in the Soviet Union, following the First World War and the Russian revolution.

Many NGOs have well-established networks that can be put to use in times of disaster. Church buildings are often used

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as temporary shelters. Several agencies have established supply lines and storage depots, and field personnel and volunteer workers are readily available when disaster strikes.

Because church organizations and some other NGOs are well-organized at the local level in disaster-prone countries, and are not closely associated with national or international bureaucracies, they are usually able to respond to disasters quickly.

Yet, although there are NGOs with expertise in disaster relief work, most of them regard long-term development assistance, and not short-term disaster relief, as their top priority. They emphasize that disasters often expose the real problems of underdevelopment in stark clarity.

Thus, many NGOs integrate disaster relief into their ongoing development programs. In the Anglican Church, the Primate's Fund began as a means of providing emergency aid. But now, following a disaster, emphasis shifts as quickly as possible from relief work to reconstruction and development. Both the Anglican and United Churches set aside 10 per cent of their overseas development budgets for emergency aid,

one indication of its comparative importance.

About 85 per cent of all UNICEF funds are used for development projects with an emphasis on "basic services"; emergency assistance is provided from the other 15 per cent.

Cansave has an annual budget of about \$3 million, with the majority being used for development programs in over 40 countries; the disaster relief fund is just \$25,000.

Care Canada supports development programs in 36 countries, and food and disaster relief materials are stockpiled in some countries by Care.

Oxfam Canada formerly responded to disasters with an automatic contribution from its \$10,000 disaster fund. In 1977 it changed its policy to concentrate its development work in five main areas—Bangladesh and eastern India; the Andean region of South America; the Caribbean; southern Africa; and native peoples in Canada and elsewhere. Public contributions to Oxfam Canada for disaster relief in areas other than these five are generally channelled to agencies active in those countries.

Inevitably, when many organizations become involved in disaster relief, there are stories of confusion, relief agencies getting in one another's way, food rotting on wharves, and corrupt officials selling relief materials on the black market. There is often some truth to such stories as they apply to government operations in certain countries, or as they apply to volunteers who are long on enthusiasm but short on experience.

What CIDA does when there's a disaster in the Third World

In advance:

CIDA sets aside \$2 million for emergency relief at the start of each year, and additional funds are drawn from CIDA's bilateral (direct country-to-country assistance) funds, or voted by Parliament when needed.

Canada (through CIDA) is the largest contributor to the World Food Program (WFP), which provides food aid to developing countries. While the WFP is primarily dedicated to development, a proportion of its resources are allocated each year to victims of disasters. In the 14 years up to the end of 1976, the WFP had carried out 290 emergency operations in 88 countries at a total cost of more than \$250 million.

In addition, CIDA's Non-Governmental Organizations Division regularly provides grants to voluntary agencies, some of which are active in emergency relief.

When disaster strikes:

CIDA is the agency responsible for providing emergency relief to countries beset by disaster. CIDA is authorized to disburse up to \$200,000 within 24 hours of a disaster. Then additional funds may be provided if there is a request from the government of the afflicted country. For example, the Guatemalan government requested food aid, materials for housing, blankets, orthopedic equipment and cash. Canada responded with \$4.2 million in food, materials and cash in the emergency phase.

CIDA obtains drugs and medicaments from the Department of National Health and Welfare and transportation from the Canadian Armed Forces.

After the emergency:

CIDA studies reconstruction needs in consultation with the government of the beset country and then provides additional bilateral funds. In Guatemala \$12.9 million was provided in grants and loans for reconstruction of housing and rural water systems.

Also CIDA's NGO Division has a \$1 million discretionary fund for post-disaster rehabilitation programs, in which money raised by NGOs is matched three-to-one. **DD**

However, the more experienced NGOs are generally well-prepared and do not fall over each other in a mad rush to help disaster victims.

There are several international channels through which relief support flows. The United, Anglican and Presbyterian Churches in Canada send funds to the World Council of Churches, in Geneva. The Roman Catholic Church sends support through Caritas and the Catholic Relief Agency. UNICEF Canada is part of the worldwide UNICEF network, which has field offices in all Third World countries.

Cansave works through the Geneva-based International Union for Child Welfare. Care Canada makes use of the field resources of New York-based Care International. Oxfam Canada, Oxfam Quebec and four other national Oxfam organizations, pool resources through the Oxfam International Disaster Unit, based in Britain.

...several agencies are not convinced of the value of joint campaigns

The major agencies co-ordinate their efforts at the international level. The United Nations Disaster Relief Organization (UNDRO) was established in 1972 to co-ordinate relief activities and serve as an information pooling service. Representatives of UNDRO, several UN agencies, church agencies and major NGOs meet in Geneva once a month, and more often during emergencies.

In Canada, the Canadian Council for International Co-operation, with a membership of more than 100 Canadian NGOs, acts as an information clearing-house during emergencies, mainly for smaller agencies that are not members of international networks.

There have also been joint fund-raising campaigns among agencies in Canada, most recently, following the Guatemalan earthquake. That campaign involved the Red Cross, UNICEF, Cansave and the Canadian Hunger Foundation. Twelve church organizations co-operate, through the Canadian Council of Churches, to get matching grants from CIDA for funds they have committed for reconstruction work.

But several agencies are not convinced of the value of joint campaigns, and feel separate campaigns are more effective. Approaches to fund-raising and development work vary. Many agencies prefer that the Canadian public continue to contribute through the organizations they feel most comfortable with.

So one issue that is not yet resolved is the question of co-ordination among Canadian NGOs. Several agencies sus-

pect that CIDA would like to see one super-agency co-ordinating all fund-raising and information activities among NGOs involved in disaster relief. There is little enthusiasm for such an approach among most NGOs.

Experienced agencies can respond quickly in emergencies. The World Council of Churches usually has people on the spot to survey damage within 24 hours of a disaster. The Mennonite Central Committee was already on the scene and began organizing relief operations as soon as the cyclone and floods hit Andhra Pradesh and other Indian states in November 1977. Within a week, the well-organized agencies have relief teams at work.

In the reconstruction phase after the emergency, experienced agencies wait until local people have defined their priorities, and put heavy emphasis on the use of local materials to avoid creating local dependencies on foreign products.

This preference for local materials is reflected in fund-raising campaigns. Most experienced agencies will take only contributions of money, which is then used to purchase the most appropriate materials, preferably as close to the disaster area as possible.

Relations between Canadian NGOs and CIDA regarding disaster relief have had their ups and downs. Some agencies have said that Canadian government participation in disaster relief is itself a disaster. Others have no criticism, claiming to have received good co-operation and support from CIDA.

CIDA's initial response to disasters is handled by the Emergency Measures Co-ordinator, who is authorized to release a grant of up to \$200,000 within 24 hours. These funds are usually channelled through the Red Cross, the rationale being that the Red Cross is the world's foremost disaster relief organization, operating in all countries that are signatories of the Geneva Convention.

Several NGOs are critical of this almost automatic grant of funds to the Red Cross, arguing that there are other agencies in the field capable of responding more quickly than the Red Cross. In some countries, the Red Cross is little more than a branch of the health ministry, it is argued, and if the bureaucracy is slow, corrupt, or unresponsive to the needs of disaster victims, there is little the Red Cross can do. In countries that do not appeal for international assistance, such as India, the national Red Cross organization becomes involved, but its effectiveness can be restricted.

Another criticism is that the Red Cross deals primarily with disaster relief, rarely linking it to long-term development programs. One critic called it a "parachute in, parachute out" approach.

CIDA's second phase assistance through its bilateral programs has also been attacked. Canadian NGOs considered CIDA's use of Canadian building materials (especially lumber) inappropriate for Guatemala, and refused to co-operate in the program on the grounds that CIDA was undercutting their own work.

CIDA is also involved in second phase assistance through its NGO Division, which matches funds raised by Canadian agencies for development projects. After the Guatemala disaster no funds were available to match what NGOs had raised. It was the end of the fiscal year.

But the situation has improved, and the NGO Division now has a \$1 million discretionary fund for post-disaster rehabilitation programs, in which money raised by agencies is matched three-to-one. It was used for the first time following the cyclone disaster in India last November.

...emergency relief must be seen in the context of long-term development

Relations between the NGO Division and Canadian NGOs have generally been good, and policy changes in CIDA following the Guatemala experience have been praised by NGOs.

Has the performance of NGOs in disaster relief improved since the Second World War? Certainly, some agencies are better prepared; more appropriate materials are provided; more attention is paid to the sensitivities of local people; and high-pressure fund-raising campaigns are much less common. But there is a feeling in most agencies that further improvements are needed. One suggestion is that post-mortems be held to see how responsibly funds were used by agencies.

However, the most important requirement for most agencies is that emergency relief be seen in the context of long-term development. In many agencies, the need to integrate these programs is clearly understood, but there is a feeling that it is not yet clear to governments or to the public.

As a result, one of the most important tasks voluntary agencies now face is to convince Canadians that disasters are not isolated events. Earthquakes, famines and wars set back the development of very poor countries, but they may also create conditions that make possible genuine development and increased self-reliance among the poorest of the poor in those countries. **DD**

**New ground broken
in search for
self-fertilizing**

WHEAT

by Brian Upton

If the world is ever blessed with a strain of wheat that does not need a heavy input of expensive nitrogen fertilizer, some or all of the credit will go to dedicated Canadian researchers.

Scientists at Agriculture Canada's Research Station in Lethbridge Alberta have brought the probability of a miracle, self-fertilizing grain, a step closer but are the first to warn against early expectations.

Development of nitrogen-fixing grain crops, adaptable to Third World countries which can ill afford increasingly expensive commercial fertilizers, would help boost their food production capacities. This goal is a top priority of many developing countries as well as being part of Canada's strategy for international development co-operation. "The main thing is to keep people calmed down about it," says Ruby Larson, a cytogeneticist working on the project.

Dr. Larson recombined the genes to produce a strain of spring wheat which supports colonies of bacteria in its roots that are capable of taking nitrogen out of the air in a way that the plant can use as a nutrient.

"People hear about it and think that some day they can grow a wheat without a nitrogen supplement that will produce a good yield. There is a possibility that this will be true one day. But I don't think there will be a time that such manipulation will give you the yield that heavy nitrogen fertilizer would give. But if you can get a good crop on a sustained basis without expensive inputs of nitrogen, you are ahead," she says.

The Lethbridge breakthrough excited agricultural scientists in many countries. Dr. Larson, T.G. Atkinson, a cereal pathologist, and John Neal, a microbiologist, were looking for lines of wheat that would resist the sawfly as well as root-rot caused by a fungus that attacks the wheat stem below the ground.

"The basic question was why were some wheat varieties more resistant than others? We felt that the key to the puzzle was deep in the genetics of the plants."

To follow up this line of research, Drs. Larson, Atkinson and Neal substituted chromosomes from the wheat variety Rescue into the variety Cadet, and vice versa. The micro-biological tests that followed proved to the satisfaction of the team of scientists that resistance or susceptibility to root rot involved a particular chromosome.

"We found one chromosome made the

Brian Upton, a former reporter and editor for newspapers in Montreal and Toronto is now an information officer with CIDA.



difference between moderate resistance and susceptibility," says Dr. Larson.

"In other words we were able to detect that one chromosome could affect the characteristics of wheat roots. We also found that substitution of this chromosome could affect the number and kind of bacteria that take up residence in the area around the roots which we commonly call the rhizosphere," Dr. Larson says.

Together with the considerable background information from Dr. Atkinson's disease research and the root rot studies which began in 1966, the genetic studies laid the basis for a new line of research.

Neither of the parent plants—Cadet and Rescue—harbored nitrogen-fixing bacteria in their root systems. But when a particular chromosome from Rescue was substituted for its homologue in Cadet, there was an interaction that enabled certain bacteria already in the soil to colonize the roots of the substitution line of wheat in the laboratory. These bacteria are capable of producing nitrogenase, the enzyme that fixes atmospheric nitrogen.

Since nitrogen-fixing bacteria won't work in soil that has been fertilized with nitrogen, the scientists chose soil for their

greenhouse experiments from prairie land that had been in a wheat-fallow rotation since 1911. The land had never been fertilized artificially.

While the difficult and complex research has thus far demonstrated a number of things, whether these bacteria can produce enough nitrogen to feed the plant is "still a wide open question," says Dr. Larson.

"We know that they will live on the roots of the plants. We know they will even penetrate the roots—that is they will go into the cortex. The cortex surrounds the plant's vascular system which is made up of tubes that bring water up and nutrients down from the top of the plant. They go inside there and live between the cells without destroying them."

"Inside the cortex is the ideal place for the plant to take up the nitrogen."

Dr. Larson notes that this nitrogen-fixing characteristic is not as good as that in legume plants such as peas and alfalfa.

In legumes, the bacteria which are called rhizobia, actually penetrate the cells in the roots of the plants, forming nodules in which a high rate of nitrogen fixation occurs.

Dr. Neal spent a year at the MacAulay Institute in Aberdeen, Scotland, to learn more about the species of bacteria, its relationship with the plant and the amount of nitrogenase it might produce under experimental conditions. (Dr. Neal, an American, has since left Alberta for a new post in the U.S. Dr. J. A. Dangerfield, a soil micro-biologist from Environment Canada, Vancouver, has replaced him.)

"He found out that it was a bacillus—and probably, although we are not certain of it—a variant of *Bacillus Polymyxa*."

Dr. Larson notes that one of the more interesting causes of natural nitrogen fixation has been going on for centuries in terraced rice-fields in parts of Asia. Good crops are produced year after year without the addition of commercial fertilizers. A blue-green algae living in pockets in the leaves of a fern that grows among the rice fixes the nitrogen. When the fern is plowed under after the harvest, the nitrogen is added to the soil.

Blue-green algae which along with fungi constitute the lichens in the north also "fix nitrogen at a low rate but enough to keep the system going." **DD**

Dr. Ruby Larson—cereal researcher

"Dr. Ruby Larson is a dedicated scientist who keeps her staff busy but contented. They would do anything for her. What a woman!"



Dr. Ruby Larson

This informal tribute to Dr. Larson was made by Evan T. Gushul, a photographer at the Research Station in Lethbridge.

Mr. Gushul, who works closely with all the researchers, says "when I came here in 1955, I would see her in the greenhouse at all hours. When she is onto something, she seems to forget about going home."

Last August, Dr. Larson was named a Fellow of the Agricultural Institute of Canada, the second woman in the AIC's history to receive the award. It was in recognition of her "outstanding accomplishments" in cereal research.

Dr. Larson's work has found its way into commercial agriculture through plant breeders, pathologists, entomologists and other scientists who have used her

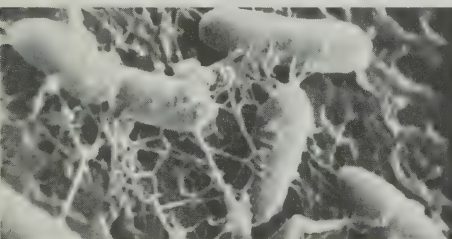
earlier discoveries in the development of varieties and management practices for disease and insect control in crops.

Born in Hatfield, Saskatchewan, in 1914, Dr. Larson began her career in research at the Swift Current, Saskatchewan, Experimental Farm in 1943 and joined the Lethbridge Station in 1948. She has published scores of scientific and technical papers.

A hint of her dedication to her work and respect for nature is reflected in her words: "You are getting a slice of time. You don't know what happened a week before or a month after you take a culture from the roots of a plant. To follow through you have to do it repeatedly and each time you destroy something." **DD**

Cell fusion a boon to increasing food production

A research technique known as cell



The rod-shaped organisms found in the root zones of a new line of wheat developed by Dr. Ruby Larson, which are believed capable of taking nitrogen from the air and feeding it to the plant.

fusion at the National Research Council's Prairie Regional Laboratory in Saskatoon is aimed at increasing food production.

Dr. K. N. Kao, a geneticist, developed one of the steps in the technique which consists of fusing together naked cells from different plants in a chemical solution.

The scientists hope to develop a mature plant from a hybrid cell culture that would combine the desired properties of each of the parents.

If the technique can be made to work, it could mean new plant hybrids such as cereals that would grow in harsher climates, citrus fruits more resistant to frost and corn capable of nitrogen fixation

(self-fertilizing) in the manner of legume plants, such as field peas.

The NRC scientists are also studying ways to boost the nitrogen-fixing properties of field peas.

W. G. W. Kurz, another researcher at the Saskatoon laboratory, says the focus is on the link between the nitrogen-fixing process and photosynthesis.

In field peas, he says, nitrogen fixation almost stops at pod filling when it is needed most. If the nitrogen-fixing process in peas could be prolonged by a week, this might increase the amount of nitrogen manufactured by peas by about 50 per cent. **DD**

THE NORTH-SOUTH INSTITUTE



A low-profile organization with a high-impact potential

by Hugh Nangle

A small man carrying a big stick is infinitely more effective than a big man with a loud voice. So it is with the North-South Institute.

This distinctively Canadian organization lets in-depth research and attention to detail do its talking, rather than high-profile publicity campaigns. One is left with the impression though that perhaps a slightly higher profile is warranted because the quality of work done by the institute is such that anyone in Canada who has the slightest interest in development assistance—whether from a solely Canadian perspective or in an international tableau—should be aware of the institute's first two publications.

Hugh Nangle is a freelance journalist specializing in international affairs, finance, labor and development assistance. Formerly with the Financial Times of Canada as Ottawa correspondent and with The Gazette, Montreal, he has also been the Canadian correspondent for The Guardian and other overseas newspapers. Besides working in the media, Mr. Nangle was in Botswana in 1971-73 as a volunteer with Canadian University Service Overseas (CUSO) and was its director of public affairs from 1975 to 1977.

[See sidebars on Report on the North-South Encounter p. 21 and Report on Third World Debt p. 22]

There is something solidly Canadian in the approach taken by the North-South Institute. It parallels the style of Canadian diplomacy: quietly effective, but sharp when a necessary step such as the Suez initiative or the recent South African action is called for.

Bernard Wood, the chief executive officer of the organization, has held to

the two-pronged approach established: research and information on the needs and demands of developing countries, and the strategies and policies open to Canadians in meeting those challenges.

The purpose behind the approach is to promote and encourage—among Canadians and others—a greater understanding of the problems and the opportunities in the field of world development.

There is very much an arm's-length style about the North-South Institute. "We must make sure we push back the chair before we draw conclusions, although it would sometimes be tempting to do otherwise," explains Mr. Wood.

The result is that the North-South Institute is doing original work, either in general policy analysis (such as in *North South Encounter* where the Canadian government's *Strategy for International Development Co-operation: 1975-1980* was subjected to an interim report card) or primary research work (such as in

Bernard Wood: the North-South Institute's first director



Bernard Wood Photo: Andrew Bako

Bernard Wood is the right man in the right place as the first executive director of the North-South Institute.

His background and experience are impeccably suited for the job.

He has worked in the field of international affairs and development assistance since 1969, most of it as an adviser to committees of the House of Commons and Senate.

Mr. Wood brings a youthful zest to his work which clearly rubs off on his young research staff. Yet his years of

experience as deputy director of the Parliamentary Centre for Foreign Affairs in Ottawa and the period from 1969 to 1972 as adviser to House and Senate committees on studies of Canada-Caribbean relations, the Pacific Region, and international development assistance serve to provide the insight and judgement required to skillfully guide his staff.

No doubt his two-year stint with the federal Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce—again in the area of international development policy—gave him a good background on how the bureaucratic system functions.

The tall, bespectacled and quiet-spoken Mr. Wood nevertheless has a sure knack for getting to the point. At present he is concerned about the sudden emphasis which CIDA seems to be putting on its tied aid policies as a generator of employment in Canada.

"I do believe, in quite hard-headed political terms, that there is a very substantial constituency in the country which support CIDA's program for other reasons

and whose support could be jeopardized by the impression (which is already one that is prevalent in all industrialized countries) that we have a fair measure of hypocrisy in our attempts to help developing countries. That in effect we have always been helping ourselves, doing well by doing good," believes Mr. Wood.

"I think a number of people who are quite important political supporters of CIDA's program and Canadian foreign involvement generally could be alienated by an artificial stress on those [Canadian-employment-generation] aspects."

Mr. Wood's arm's-length approach to research tends to show through in his assessments of such current developments as the changes within CIDA and the International Development Research Centre (IDRC); and the shift in programming emphasis within CIDA.

This notwithstanding, he generates a vitality which indicates clearly why the North-South Institute has been able to move ahead so successfully despite the financial restrictions placed on it. **DD**

Third World Deficits and the "Debt Crisis" which provides a clear-cut picture of the debt problem facing developing countries). To date, the results are impressive, especially considering the restraints placed on the North-South Institute.

As with so many other non-governmental agencies, the institute's chief constraint is money.

The North-South Institute was born quietly but effectively in May 1976—but not as effectively as the board of directors and the original steering committee would have liked. Money has not been as readily available to the research body as was originally envisaged. Thus, it is operating

today as a scaled-down version of the original proposed project.

That good Samaritan to so many sound Canadian ideas, the Donner Canadian Foundation, played an important role during the formative stages by providing the funding for the initial meetings to examine if there should be such an institute in Canada. Since then, the foundation has provided a further series of grants to put the organization into operation. The International Development Research Centre contributes, although there is some disappointment that the IDRC support is only token. The disappointment arises from the fact that IDRC's mandate is suited to supporting an organization

such as the North-South Institute, which is doing policy analysis and original research work.

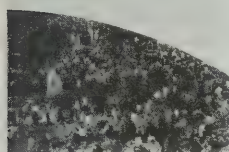
The Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO) Division of the Canadian International Development Agency has come through with support for the institute through its Public Participation Program. If it were not for the support of CIDA's NGO Division, the North-South Institute might still be on the drawing board.

Acutely aware of the reliance on CIDA—the IDRC funds are merely CIDA funds moving through IDRC—the institute's board does not wish to see any larger CIDA role. Thus the institute has been built from the smallest possible base. Now

Report on the North South Encounter

North South Encounter

The Third World and Canadian Performance



The North-South Institute's first publication, *North South Encounter—The Third World and Canadian Performance*, succeeds in the admirable task of putting Canadian development assistance programs (with considerable focus on CIDA's efforts) into the entire mix of external affairs policies, monetary policies, trade, energy, environment, science, and many other areas which affect Third World countries. Canada's aid programs are put into the larger perspective of recent world conferences between rich and poor countries.

On the whole, CIDA emerges with good marks in the institute's report, but with some words of warning and concern about disbursement bottlenecks and the resulting slippage in the government's commitment to increase steadily the proportion of the gross national product spent on official aid. The international target is 0.7 per cent. In 1976 Canada devoted only 0.46 of its GNP to international development, down from 0.58 per cent in 1975.

It is in other areas where Canadian performance is marked down more severely and some of the criticisms do not come back to rest with CIDA as the agency for action (or inaction).

"Although Canada has been a leader in the rhetoric of aiding developing countries, it has been failing badly on the crucial issue of helping them get a foot in the doorway to the rich marketplaces of the industrialized nations," states the report's accompanying press release in criticism of the present trend to an over-emphasis on Canadian self-interest

in its trade relations.

North South Encounter—The Third World and Canadian Performance points to the considerable lack of overall leadership and co-ordination between departments, with a resulting loss of the "development dimension" in the rush to protect Canadian industry, boost Canadian trade, and push Canadian interests at the expense of longer-term Canadian self-interest.

The institute's report puts the government's general protectionist approach through non-tariff barriers and other import restrictions and tied aid programs under justifiable question.

"The government must find alternatives to its current drastic escalation of import restrictions [which will] increasingly limit the industrialization and employment opportunities of lower-income countries as well as those of semi-industrialized nations." Thus the institute addressed itself to Canada's imposition of global quotas on all clothing and apparel items until the Textile and Clothing Board could come up with policies to save Canada's atrophying textile and clothing industries.

The North-South Institute came up with a novel suggestion—possible use of CIDA funds for a crash program to assist workers, communities and industries unable to compete against low-cost imports from Third World nations.

"In terms of actually providing markets for the developing countries' processed and manufactured goods, Canada is one of the least successful of the Western countries," states the report. Canada ranks eleventh out of 20 major trading states in per capita imports from poor nations. The effect of this is borne out in the small share developing countries have of our total imports.

Tied aid—that old, standard complaint about CIDA's programs by the non-governmental organizations—is put into its proper perspective. Canada is among

the most hard-line countries in resisting untying agreements, reports the North-South Institute. The report reprints a chart from the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development's report on development co-operation that shows the tied or partially tied portion of Canada's aid program was higher than 10 of the 15 other major industrialized nations in 1975. It is the lack of firm government leadership which causes this problem. Recent Treasury Board studies demonstrate little harm would come to Canadian industry if aid was untied. CIDA is saddled with the problem.

According to the institute, the result is that aid becomes an export subsidy which reduces the real value of aid on average, by as much as 20 per cent—an assertion hotly denied by CIDA.

The question of tied aid has become a perpetual bone of contention between CIDA and its critics.

The institute also objects to CIDA promoting the benefits of tied aid to Canadian businessmen in an effort to improve the agency's image in Canada. It questions the necessity for this effort by CIDA because it contends there have been few serious complaints from businessmen that have not received their fair share of benefits through CIDA contracts.

Invaluable in *The Third World and Canadian Performance* are the annexes and the information supplement. The annexes help to clarify issues, while the supplement provides an excellent source of information—the calendar of major events is a tremendous help to anyone attempting to keep tabs on what is going on in international development assistance and international negotiations. DD

North South Encounter—The Third World and Canadian Performance (\$3.95) and **Third World Deficits and the "Debt Crisis"** (\$2.00) can both be ordered in English or French from the North South Institute, 185 Rideau Street, Ottawa, K1N 5X8, or through booksellers.

approaching its third year of operation, the North-South Institute is still operating below the first year targeted budget of \$374,000.

"It has never been our intention to become a huge organization," says Mr. Wood. "We would not have a staff larger than 20."

"When fully operational, we may commission some work," he states, by way of underlining that it is his intention to see the institute remain lean.

At the same time there is also serious consideration given to earning some contract money by doing commissioned studies for others interested in development assistance—federal and provincial government departments, international organizations, other NGOs, organized labor, and the business community.

The heavyweight analysis done by the institute indicates a deeper and more dynamic approach will have to be taken in reaching the Canadian public than the flim-flammy of so much of today's information distribution. One such step will be a major Canadian conference each year—either sponsored solely by the North-South Institute or in conjunction with another body—on a serious subject related to international development. The

first will be held this fall.

Another step will be the publication of an annual review in the form of an "annual assessment" in much the same manner as *North South Encounter* last fall.

One thing which the North-South Institute will not be is a short-term critic of government policy, however tempting that may be. Again, the emphasis is placed on serious and considered judgment and not the quicker but less-detailed-research response.

Nor will the work be concentrated purely on government and economic analysis. There will be a shift to a broader base, incorporating social aspects. One of the future areas of work is foreigners in Canada. Another will be Canadian business and its involvement in the Third World.

It is through this approach that the primary objective of making more Canadians aware of development assistance issues will be achieved. The degree of success, at this early stage, is perhaps best measured by a crude barometer: the growing awareness of the North-South Institute and of what it offers, among members of the Parliamentary Press Gallery. The "diggers" among gallery members—whether the intent is to flesh

out material with necessary details or to look for chinks in the CIDA armor—are becoming increasingly aware of the institute.

No doubt those interested in the issues of development will be reminded of the North-South Institute over the forthcoming year, when their next two volumes in the Canada North-South 1977-78 series (*Commodity Trade: Test Case for a New Economic Order* and *World Food and the Canadian "Breadbasket"*) are released.

With the slowly dawning awareness of the media and the apparent acknowledgment by development assistance and academic communities of the worth of the North-South Institute, the organization is well on the way to achieving one of its primary objectives.

Recognition of the institute's worth will, however, have to be translated into concrete financial support if all the promise which has been shown to date is to mature into definitely achieved results of continuing excellence and relevance. **DD**

3 CANADA NORTH-SOUTH 1977-1978 VOL 2
Third World Deficits and
the "Debt Crisis"



Report on Third World Debt

On the back cover of *Third World Deficits and the "Debt Crisis"* is this statement: "By 1980, one out of every two dollars borrowed by developing countries may be needed just to repay their old debts. This study clarifies the different problems of the Third World and their connection to trade issues and development efforts. It shows how Canada can follow up its precedent-setting action on debt relief for some of the poorest countries and how progress can be made on controversial problems of privately-held debt."

The statement is a succinct introduction and description of the 60-page North-South Institute publication which provides a clear-cut picture of debt problems.

Of the report's 17 policy proposals—nine aimed at strengthening the international financial community and improving its capability for development financing and eight focusing on Canadian action—the most immediate calls for the Canadian government to become a proponent of

debt relief and press others to cancel the aid-related debts of the poorest nations as Canada did in June 1977.

There is a call for "burden-sharing" between the industrialized states and the poor nations through cancellation of debts which have accrued as a result of inappropriately "hard" terms on past debts. The North-South Institute analysts calculate that if the industrialized nations cancelled all the debts of the poorest nations they still would not exceed the 0.7 per cent of GNP established as the international target for aid.

The seriousness of the international debt problem is further underlined by the study's analyses of the situation and the basic issues:

"The poorest and the least developed countries (such as Bangladesh, Pakistan and a number of African countries) owe nearly all their debts to government aid agencies and international institutions (90.6 per cent for the lower-income and 74.2 per cent for the middle-income countries in 1975). Although their debts are small relative to total developing-country debt, they are large in relation to their capacity to generate savings and foreign exchange. Further, it is important to remember that these countries will have to continue to bear additional outlays for oil imports and that their prospects for paying these bills through increased export earnings are poor.

"...the situation of the higher and upper middle-income developing countries (such as Brazil, South Korea, Mexico, Peru, or Turkey) is quite different. The credit-worthiness of these countries has allowed them to resort to private money markets to meet their foreign-exchange needs: for instance, of the total public debt of the higher and middle-income developing countries in 1975, about 51.5 per cent originated from private creditors."

One of the fascinating factors to emerge from the North-South Institute study is the amount of lending to developing countries done by private Canadian banks. Their \$6.6 billion outstrips the \$1.9 billion and \$1.2 billion loaned by CIDA and the Export Development Bank as of December 31, 1976.

Again the North-South Institute publication has come up with a considerable amount of valuable and highly relevant material as it explores the issue of international debt. Equally as important as the figures and comparisons are the questions, arguments and urgings of the institute because they address such important issues and seek to push for solutions to them. **DD**

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An
interview
with

JOE MORRIS:

by Roy LaBerge

Hopes for lasting harmony between the countries of the northern and southern hemispheres may rest partly on the burly shoulders of an ex-logger from the forests of British Columbia.

He is Joe Morris who has just stepped down as president of the Canadian Labour Congress, having reached 65, the mandatory retirement age for CLC executive officers.

Freed of the burdens of that office he will have more time and energy to devote to his work with international organizations. Mr. Morris was elected chairman of the governing body of the International Labour Organization last June, becoming not only the first labor leader but also the first non-government official to head the 120-country, tripartite United Nations agency.

He is also the only labor leader—and the only Canadian—on the newly formed Independent Commission on International Development Concerns, headed by Willy Brandt, the Nobel-prize-winning former chancellor of West Germany.

Mr. Brandt has handpicked 16 people to join him in an effort to reconcile the differences between the rich industrial countries of the North and the poor developing countries of the South—differences that threaten the peace of the world.

The commission members represent both developed and developing countries, and reflect a wide range of political views. They include former prime ministers Edward Heath of Great Britain and Olaf Palme of Sweden, former premier Pierre Mendes-France of France and former president Eduardo Frei of Chile.

Mr. Morris has an international reputation as a tough bargainer, and his participation will give the group's recommendations to governments and to the United Nations more credibility with non-governmental organizations in both hemispheres.

Roy LaBerge teaches social science at Algonquin College, Ottawa. He is also a veteran journalist and former editor of *Canadian Labour*.



"Can a guy stop when he has been running most of his life? Can he turn it off, like that?"

Photos: Andrews-Newton

The Brandt group will be following up the work of a commission headed by another Canadian, the late Lester B. Pearson. The 1969 report of the eight-member Commission on International Development recommended increased

The CLC prefers to work through the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions and the ILO rather than bilaterally with individual Third World countries

foreign aid by industrial countries and improved coordination of programs.

Many of its recommendations were ignored; others were stifled by the economic slowdown that hit industrial countries in the current decade.

The idea for the new commission originated with Robert McNamara, president of the World Bank. When he approached Willy Brandt to head it, Mr. Brandt insisted that it be totally independent of any organization, so he sought funds and people who he thought could do the job. Mr. Morris was recommended by the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU)—its one and only nominee.

After the commission's first meeting, near Bonn in December, 1977, Mr. Morris is optimistic about its potential contribution.

"We hope to finish our work by May or June of 1979," he said in an interview—producing a series of recommendations for the United Nations and the governments concerned.

He is confident that the recommendations will carry a great deal of weight in the international community.

"The commission members are people of influence," he points out, "and every one of them has a reputation for not being involved in flights of fancy."

The commission intends to gather together all available reports on the North-South differences and separate them into three groups: issues on which there has been a wide measure of agreement; issues on which there has been some agreement but not a wide consensus, and "new, real issues that need to be dealt with."

Primarily, the commission will be dealing with the last two of the three.

It will also be giving particular scrutiny to the proposals for a New Economic Order that have been building up from various United Nations agencies in recent years.

High on the list will be the Basic Needs Strategy recommended by the ILO's 14-day World Employment Conference in 1976.

It means giving first priority to meeting the immediate needs of the poor majority in developing countries for food, safe water, shelter and basic education and health care.

That strategy is a high priority of the CLC which worked hard to have it given a prominent place on the agenda of the world employment conference and be unanimously recommended by the conference participants.

John Harker, director of the CLC's international affairs department, describes the strategy this way: "It means that if a country is under-developed it should not just look at the prospect of becoming industrialized by injections of world capital that it would use to provide itself with an export industry to sell goods to the developed world. It must first analyse the needs for health care, water, clothing and nutrition in its own territory and try to mobilize its people, who are often unemployed in large numbers, to meet those needs."

The basic needs strategy has gained credibility not only with the ILO and CIDA but also with the World Health Organization, the Food and Agricultural Organization and the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

Mr. Morris says he is "comfortable" working with the other members of the Brandt group whose objectives fit right in with his concerns.

He sees the group as a catalyst that will bring different points of view together into a comprehensive whole.

To Mr. Morris, the need to develop a new



"There is much greater interdependence between countries than there ever was before, and we must share the resources of the world more and more."

economic order is an extremely urgent one:

"There is no question that the world of the immediate future is going to be different. The economic levers that have been used to control the world economy in the past are no longer working.

"We are going to have to develop a new approach. There is much greater interdependence between countries than there ever was before, and we must share the resources of the world more and more."

When he talks of resources he means total resources—investment, brains, technology, the simple resources of how to do things, of how people can be taught to be self-sufficient.

"Otherwise, the world will remain divided into two camps, the haves of the North and the have-nots of the South," he warns.

"Eventually, if there is not a sharing by reason, there will be a sharing by reaching out and taking."

Mr. Morris has been responsible for the CLC's involvement in international affairs since he was first elected one of its five full-time executive officers in 1962. But his concerns for an involvement with developing countries go back to the 1950s.

The son of a British unionist, Mr. Morris immigrated to Canada as a boy and went to work as a logger on Vancouver Island. He was an active member of the International Woodworkers of America from its founding in 1937.

He suffered a leg wound while serving in the Canadian army in the Second World War, but returned to the lumber camps and his union when the war ended.

He was elected president of his local in Duncan, B.C., in 1948 and was elected regional president in 1953.

In 1958, he was elected to the executive board of the International Federation of Building and Woodworkers, a world-wide trade secretariat of the International Confederation of International Trade Unions.

He mentions with pride that his union had both Canadian and U.S. representatives on the secretariat, long before the Canadian sections of other international unions had achieved that particular form of autonomy.

Through the Federation, he began to rub shoulders with woodworkers from developing countries, and to become aware of and involved in their concerns in a new and personal way.

Mr. Morris has also been a long-time vice-president of the ICFTU and a member of the executive board of the Inter-American Regional Organization of Workers.

He had also been a member of the workers group of the ILO since 1966 and chairman of the group and vice-president of the governing body from 1970 until his election last year as chairman.

The CLC view is that the industrialized countries must share technology with developing nations

His involvement in international organizations is reflected in the CLC's own approach to international aid. It prefers to work through the ICFTU and the ILO rather than bilaterally with individual Third World countries.

Mr. Harker has no doubt this approach is one of the factors behind the recognition the CLC is increasingly gaining as "not the wealthiest but the most active of the industrialized trade union centres in bringing about the best possible harmonious accommodation between developed and developing countries."

He sees the ICFTU's nomination of Joe Morris to the Brandt commission "as a testament to the way the CLC is seen as neither protectionist nor naive in its dealings with the Third World.

"People know we have a very realistic view of what development means," Harker says. "It doesn't mean giving multinational corporations better terms of trade; it doesn't mean giving the elites in the business and military communities in the developing countries the power to crush any form of social mobilization."

Mr. Morris bristles at any suggestion that Canadian workers should always take a protectionist stand because of the possibility that industries in developing



"The economic levers that have been used to control the world economy in the past are no longer working."

countries would take away more jobs from Canadians.

"What does it matter whether you are competing with a developing country or with some other country that has taken the raw resources from that developing country somewhere else to use in manufacturing?" he asks. "You are still competing with those resources.

"There are businesses in Singapore that are financed by people from industrialized countries. You have textile companies from Canada that are producing in Hong Kong and bringing products in to compete with their own manufacturers here."

He points to the MacGregor example—the sportswear manufacturer that "ran away from Canada to Switzerland and now is the biggest manufacturer of sportswear in Europe . . . Switzerland isn't any low-wage area."

It is because of situations like that that the CLC wants private enterprise—both labor and management—on hand to advise Canadian government negotiators at the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade talks, as other countries do.

"We're afraid that in government-to-government negotiations agreements might be made that would jeopardize jobs in certain industries in Canada without necessarily benefiting the people in developing countries. Some of the problems that were created in the Kennedy round didn't benefit people in developing countries at all."

So although the CLC has called for an opening of Canadian markets to imports of manufactured goods from developing countries, it will not go along, for example, with the possibility of Taiwan "demolishing" the Canadian textile industry, especially if it means workers in Quebec will lose their jobs and workers

in Taiwan are going to be paid miserable wages anyway.

This viewpoint is consistent with the basic needs strategy which Morris will continue to promote in the new forum of the Brandt commission.

The CLC view is that the industrialized countries must share technology with developing nations, but not impose a particular form. As Harker puts it: "The technology should be appropriate to the skills and infrastructure of the country."

The CLC's international affairs director acknowledges that governments in some developing countries are suspicious of this strategy, suspecting "a confidence trick to keep them continually second best and inferior to the technological societies that we know."

"But," he points out, "they cannot ever hope to achieve the technological conditions that prevail in the heavily industrialized countries."

"Instead, by focusing on their own appropriate technology, they will become less dependent for many things."

"And they might even reveal to us that much of our technology could be dispensed with if we were prepared to adjust our life styles in fairly minor ways."

The CLC has long been concerned with human rights and political freedom in developing countries

Mr. Morris and Mr. Harker both feel that, in the long run, the basic needs strategy approach will generate more economic growth throughout the whole world.

Mr. Morris' belief in the value of government-union-industry tripartism is shown in his regrets that the U.S. pulled out of the ILO at the end of 1977.

"Even if the U.S. doesn't come back in, the ILO will learn to live without it," he says, "but this would not be a good thing. The U.S. has the biggest economy in the world, the largest free trade union movement in the world, and industrialists who are a big force in the world."

"But the organization is going to go on without them because the reasons for which it was founded are still viable. We need at least one organization in the international system where the voice of employers and employees is heard, where employer and worker members can exert an influence and bring forth ideas that would never emanate from the public sector but must come from the private sector."

Nor does Mr. Morris attribute the U.S. pullout to George Meany, president of the



"Eventually, if there is not a sharing by reason, there will be a sharing by reaching out and taking."

American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations, as some observers do. "There were others who wanted it just as badly, or even more, than he did," Mr. Morris says, "but they didn't have the guts to stand up and be put on the line as he did."

The CLC has also long been concerned with human rights and political freedom in developing countries, taking the stand that they are indivisible from the social and economic aspects.

In 1977, the Congress brought a number of black trade union leaders from South Africa, a policy it is continuing in 1978 which the UN General Assembly has designated as International Year against Apartheid.

Mr. Morris made the CLC's stand clear in an address to the 1977 International Trade Union Conference Against Apartheid: "We are unanimous in insisting on the total abolition of apartheid. We don't want window dressing. We cannot settle for less than the total, unconditional independence of the African majority; the complete restoration of their right to decide their own destiny."

Another change in CLC international policy under Morris is in its educational programs. Where the Congress once brought trade unionists from developing countries to Canada for training programs, it now sends Canadians to developing countries—again in co-operation with CIDA and the ICFTU.

"We work with people in the context of their own society," Morris explains, "teaching them the basics of problem solving in their own community, so that they are not trying to overlay our methods of doing things in a society that may be completely different."

"We get a very good play. In many parts of the world this approach has resulted in self-help co-operatives and credit

unions and in 'sweat co-operatives' of people pooling their talents to produce in their own country products that they had previously imported.

"We've conducted educational programs of this kind in the Caribbean, in Latin America and in both English and French-speaking countries of Africa—joint programs with CIDA in which the ICFTU is the executing agency but we provide the people and some of the funds."

Now when the CLC brings 10 to 12 labor leaders from developing countries to Canada every year, it is not to teach them but to learn from them.

For Mr. Morris has not forgotten how much he himself learned from first person contact at his first International Federation of Building and Woodworkers conference in 1958.

He will still have this kind of person-to-person contact through international organizations when he steps down from the CLC presidency, but he speaks with regret of another kind that he will miss: "Whenever I go across Canada to address CLC educational programs, I almost always wind up in an around-the-table session with local union leaders and young rank-and-file trade unionists".

Always a hard worker, Mr. Morris has

The CLC wants both labor and management on hand to advise Canadian . . . negotiators at the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade talks. . .

spent most of his life working a seven-day week and a 16-hour day at the task of easing the heavy burdens of fellow workers in both industrial and developing countries.

As he contemplates his future after the April CLC convention in Quebec City, he is asking himself: "Can a guy stop when he has been running most of his life? Can he turn it off, like that?"

"I don't think he can," is his answer to his own question.

So Joe Morris will keep running—through ICFTU and ILO activities among others, and as one of Willy Brandt's chosen peacemakers.

The Brandt Commission faces an enormous task. In the last three or four years, almost every international conference has been marked by a bitter confrontation between participants from the two hemispheres.

But if the other 16 members can keep up with Morris' pace, they just may succeed in finding the key to making the 1980s a harmonious decade of North-South sharing and co-operation. **DD**

RIVER BLINDNESS

**A WAR AGAINST
DISEASE IN
WEST AFRICA**



by Diane Beauchamp

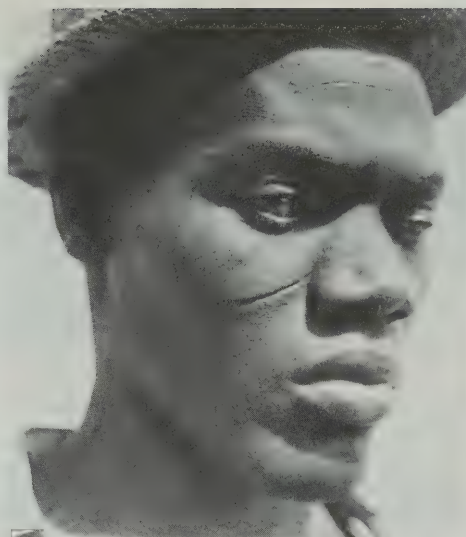
This particular war began in 1974, and is still being fought. The enemy, a pesky little blackfly that wreaks havoc wherever it lives, has succeeded in depopulating entire villages and valleys in West Africa. In the infested areas, it is as natural for people to go blind as they get older as it is for Canadians to get grey hair.

The gravity of the situation was such that nine industrialized countries including Canada and four international organizations combined their efforts to establish a blackfly control program. [See sidebar on Canadian contributions p. 29]

Although the Canadian blackfly is not highly esteemed, it at least heralds the onset of summer. Its African cousin, however, is dreaded because it transmits a debilitating disease that eventually causes blindness.

Called onchocerciasis by scientists, the disease is commonly known as river blindness because the vector—the fly carrying the disease—usually reproduces near fast-flowing rivers. In the affected countries, where rainfall is scarce, it is tragically ironic that water, the only potential resource, cannot be used because of the presence of this malevolent fly.

Diane Beauchamp is assistant editor of *DIRECTIONS DU DÉVELOPPEMENT*, the French-language edition of *DEVELOPMENT DIRECTIONS*. She is a former editor and writer for *L'infirmière canadienne*, the French-language edition of *The Canadian Nurse*, published by the Canadian Nurses' Association.



Blindness—the effect of onchocerciasis on tens of thousands in Africa. Photo: CIDA

In order for its eggs to hatch, the insect needs to feed on blood, and it has an annoying preference for human blood. When the female bites, parasitic worms living off the fly enter the human body and produce millions of embryos which form nodules under the skin. Blindness occurs when the embryos invade the eye.

The disease causes a great deal of suffering—constant, painful itching, loss of weight and a pervasive feeling of weakness. It is a living death for its victims. It affects men and women, young and old alike.

When the older people go blind, the children, covered with scratches, act as

their eyes until they too lose their sight. It is a vicious circle because there is no practical cure for onchocerciasis and the parasite can live in the human body for 20 years.

The human suffering is great and the economic consequences disastrous. National productivity in the countries affected is hampered, and the blind are a heavy burden on their villages. In order to escape the flies, the inhabitants of the Volta river basin's fertile valleys have moved to infertile overcropped areas where lack of water, poor harvests and overpopulation intensify their misery.

The Onchocerciasis Control Program is directed by the World Health Organization (WHO) and is based in Ouagadougou, Upper Volta. It operates on an annual budget of about \$10 million, and an organization of 700 people.

It receives assistance from nine donor countries—Germany, Belgium, Canada, the United States, France, Japan, Kuwait, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom—and is supported by four international organizations: the World Bank, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), WHO and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). The project will be carried out over the next 20 years.

At present, the only practical means of preventing river blindness is to destroy the blackfly larvae in the water where the insect reproduces. Helicopters and light airplanes fly over the breeding grounds and spray a bio-degradable chemical called "abate," which kills the insects

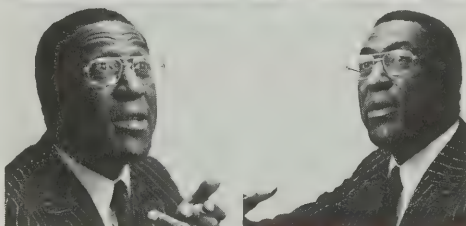
An interview with the director general of the Onchocerciasis Control Program

The director general of the Onchocerciasis Control Program, Marc Louis Bazin, gave the following answer when asked to explain why the program was established:

"The question is particularly relevant because it leads one to ask why this particular disease has been chosen for eradication at this particular time. After all, onchocerciasis is a disease which causes blindness, but it does not kill.

"Is it more important to help people work lands which can once again be cultivated through the eradication of disease, or is it more important to care for people suffering from fatal diseases?

"The most honest answer I can give is that this program is the first spectacular demonstration of the link between economics and health. For a very long time, economists—the people with the final word on aid and development co-operation—tended for the most part to



Marc Louis Bazin Photo: Andrews-Newton

consider health as the prime social sector, and for an economist, 'social' means 'not very profitable.' Consequently, expenditures on health were considered unproductive.

"The interest shown in health projects by traditional sources of aid remained insignificant. It took a disease like onchocerciasis, which demonstrated how close

the link was between economics and health, to make them all realize that disease control expenditures were not unproductive but were, in fact, a necessary first step in the development of a region. I think this is the most convincing argument that has been put forward in order to mobilize international capital for the program.

"The human consequences of the disease are, of course, dramatically expressed in the suffering, resigned faces of the sick.

"This factor has certainly played a part in affecting public opinion, since people always feel compassion at the sight of such great human tragedy. However, that would certainly not have been enough to mobilize the large amounts of capital needed for the program.

"Over the 1974-1979 period the program will cost \$60 million, and activities during the 1980-1985 period will probably be just as costly. In my view, the mobilization of such large amounts of capital, required more than the public's feelings of compassion. The economic argument was the clincher." DD



without any harmful side effects on humans, fish or fresh-water organisms. Since January 1977, Viking Helicopters, a Canadian company, has held the insecticide spraying contract.

Plans to spray the infested areas are made by the vector control service. It gathers the necessary hydrological information, prepares weekly treatment cards and assesses the results.

Every Saturday, a report on water conditions is conveyed to the spraying teams through an internal radio communications network linking the various program sectors. The treatment cards prepared on the basis of these facts are given to the pilots Monday morning at briefing sessions.

Eighty-six teams of collectors help in the assessment of activities. Each team comprises three people stationed in given locations within the area being sprayed. Their work consists in collecting bites so that entomologists can carry out laboratory tests and, based on the frequency of bites and the age of the female flies, determine the disease transmission potential. If the campaign is successful, the blackfly population in a sector that has already been sprayed will not include any young flies.

The program has been divided into three zones for regional coverage. To date, two zones consisting of areas located in Upper Volta, Ivory Coast, Ghana and Mali have been sprayed. Coverage of the third zone in Niger, Togo and Benin began early in 1977. [See map on p 29.]

According to Marc Bazin, director general of the Onchocerciasis Control Program, the effectiveness of the spraying is indisputable: "In all areas where the insecticide was sprayed, the blackfly population has either completely disappeared or decreased considerably. We believe, however, that a minimum level of control must be maintained because the disease will never be totally eradicated; we are prepared to accept a vector population of between 15 and 20 per cent of its original size.

"This year we had to establish the acceptable disease transmission level. We asked ourselves two questions: up to what level are we prepared to send people back to the land? What is the level of risk at which we can resettle

Canadian helicopters spray insecticide in the fight against river blindness.

Photos: Viking Helicopters

people in these areas in the knowledge that they will not be exposed to large-scale recurrences of the disease?

"The answer was given by an independent group in Geneva: 1,000 bites per person per year is an acceptable level. We also made a distinction between the number of bites and the number of larvae infesting the human body because not all the larvae are of this type. One hundred larvae per person per year is also considered an acceptable level."

In conjunction with the efforts being made by the vector control service, the epidemiological unit is gathering information on the physical condition of people who lived in previously infested areas. To date, teams of doctors and ophthalmologists have examined 90,000 people—men and women, young and old alike—in 300 villages. This information will make it possible for the effect of the vector control campaign on the disease transmission level to be assessed over the period from year zero to year five.

Research activities play a major role in the program. Between 1975 and 1977, more than \$1.87 million was invested in research on the vector, insecticides and drugs. Since the program began, work on the vector has focused on the identification of various kinds of blackfly and their behavior.

With respect to insecticides, efforts are being made to find a product to replace "abate" because it is feared that one day the blackfly will develop a resistance to this insecticide.

To date, there are no drugs that can be used in a large-scale campaign to control the parasite. Two products offer some hope and experiments are being carried out to determine under what conditions and at what frequency of treatment they would yield positive results without any harmful side effects. The discovery of such a drug would certainly help reduce the length of the blackfly control campaign.

In areas where the density of the blackfly population has been sufficiently reduced and which meet the criteria for the acceptable disease transmission level,

the African governments concerned can now establish economic development programs. Resettlement is under way and some development programs are already in progress in Upper Volta, Ghana and Togo.

The size of the projects varies from one country to the next. In Upper Volta, the Volta Valleys Management Authority, set up by the government in 1974 under the Ministry of Rural Development, is taking charge of the development of inhabited and under-populated zones in the valleys bordering the white, red and black Volta rivers.

The program is assisted by France, the Netherlands, Germany, and the U.S. as well as international organizations such as the European Development Fund, and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). About 1,000 families have been resettled since 1974. Choice of families to be resettled is on the basis of priority in over-populated areas where the land has been over-used. The lack of clinics, nurses, drugs, schools and teachers poses more problems but the program organizers are making efforts to solve them.

In Ghana, certain projects began before the campaign against onchocerciasis. One of them, an agricultural development program, expects to increase agricultural production and the revenue of farmers in the Upper Region of Ghana where a million people (one-tenth of Ghana's population) live. The program is financed by the government of Ghana, by the World Bank and Britain.

In Togo, two colonization projects are under way: the development of the Kara valley under the Ministry of Rural Development, with the assistance of the European Development Fund; and the North Togo integrated development program under the Ministry of Planning with the assistance of the UNDP and the FAO.

Under the first project, 250 families have been settled, and under the second, 600 people will be settled at Atalote. Most of these development programs contain an element of social motivation. After all, what is important now is to stimulate these severely afflicted people to return to the river valleys, increase their productivity and attain their primary goal: to produce their own food and become self-reliant. **DD**



Phase 1
 Phase 2
 Phase 3

In the seven countries located in the Volta river basin—Benin, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Upper Volta, Mali, Niger and Togo—one million people suffer from onchocerciasis and 100,000 of them are either partially or completely blind.

The Onchocerciasis Control Program, under the direction of the World Health Organization (WHO), is combatting the blackfly in an area covering 700,000 square kilometres. The objective is to resettle fertile areas once the disease is under control, and encourage the governments concerned to set up economic development projects.

Canadian contributions to the fight against river blindness

Canada has been contributing to the Onchocerciasis Control Program in the Volta River basin since 1974, when this multinational campaign was set up. The Canadian government had originally agreed to make a \$3 million contribution through CIDA for the 1974-1979 period. However, the increase in program costs, partly attributable to inflation, and the devaluation of the Canadian dollar, prompted the Canadian authorities to increase their annual payments from \$500,000 to \$750,000 in 1978 and 1979, thereby raising our contribution to \$3.5 million.

Contract granted to Viking Helicopters

Canada's involvement took a new turn in December 1976 when, following an invitation to tender issued by the World Health Organization (WHO), the Canadian Commercial Corporation was awarded an insecticide spraying contract, on behalf of an Ontario company called Viking Helicopters, amounting to \$6,141,745 for the 1977-1979 period.

The Canadian Commercial Corporation, which is responsible for the procurement of goods and services in Canada on behalf of foreign governments and international agencies, acted as intermediary between Viking Helicopters and WHO. About eight international companies submitted bids.

Viking Helicopters' three-year contract represents one quarter of the turnover of the company, which employs 110 people in Carleton Place, a small town about 30 miles from Ottawa. The contract ensures that the staff is fully employed and that equipment is used to full capacity. It also provides an international outlet for the company's activities.

The team posted in Africa comprises about 20 people including 12 pilots, a project manager, engineers, mechanics and radio technicians. It also has nine helicopters and three airplanes.

The work requires a great deal of skill on the part of the pilots, according to Roy Kilburn, project manager in Carleton Place. Flights are made at very low altitudes, the airplanes sometimes have to fly between trees, and the insecticide must be sprayed accurately.

Program organizers were impressed by the device developed by Viking to disperse the insecticide. It has allowed the treatment of areas where the pest was previously difficult to control.

Marc Bazin, director general of the onchocerciasis program, does not see the work of the pilot as simply dousing the rivers with weekly doses of insecticide. "It is imperative," he says, "that the pilot understand why a certain dose was prescribed."

"The water level varies constantly, and from the time a treatment card has been prepared to the moment a pilot arrives at the site, conditions may have changed. He must be able to recognize the areas where the fly reproduces and take it on his own initiative to treat them. So we need men who are highly competent and interested in what we are doing."

Memorial University program

Canada is also making a contribution through its Research Unit on Vector Pathology (RUVF) at the Memorial University of Newfoundland. The Unit has been working since 1972 on possible biological control agents to combat the blackfly. Its activities are financed by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), the National Research Council of Canada (NRC), and the William and Flora Hewlett Foundation in the United States, which make annual contributions of \$30,000, \$102,000 and \$50,000 respectively.

There is also some support from the World Health Organization which has designated RUVF one of its collaborating centres.

The researchers at Memorial University work in close co-operation with entomologists and parasitologists at the Onchocerciasis Research Institute (ORI) in the Ivory Coast.

A leading enemy of the blackfly is a microscopic roundworm which enters the blackfly larvae. Certain kinds of this parasite remain in the larvae and eventually emerge from them by making a hole in the body wall of the insects, which die as a result. Related worms are also the enemy of the mosquito, and infection of mosquitos with them has helped to bring mosquito populations under control.

Last summer two U.S. researchers working as consultants under the IDRC-supported program between RUVF and ORI successfully infected some onchocerciasis-transmitting blackflies with mosquito-derived worms. These worms can now be mass-produced and will soon be made commercially in the U.S.

Next November, Dr. Marshall Laird, RUVF director, with Dr. Murray Colbo of his staff and French collaborators of the ORI will repeat the experiment in the Ivory Coast with a larger quantity of worms.

Use of the blackfly-specific worms depends on the ability to reproduce them in the laboratory. Dr. Jean Finney of RUVF has succeeded in raising adult female worms of the mosquito-attacking kind through in vitro breeding, but it has not yet been possible to produce males. Once the mass-production methods have been perfected for the blackfly-attacking kind, industry participation will be required to commercialize a product parallel to that now being developed for use against mosquitos. **DD**

The Netherlands and the Third World

A program to restructure the home economy to help benefit Third World industries, and a state-controlled finance company that encourages investment in developing countries are two of the novel programs that characterize the Dutch aid program.

The Netherlands, along with Sweden, ranks number one among industrialized countries providing aid to developing countries. Performance is measured in terms of the percentage of a country's gross national product (GNP) spent on official development assistance (ODA).

Figures for 1976 peg the Netherlands' performance at 0.82 per cent of GNP, and early indications for 1977 indicate there was an increase last year.

In 1976 there was a dramatic increase in Netherlands' aid from the previous year. The ODA jumped from 0.75 per cent to 0.82 per cent—or from \$604 million to \$720 million—a 25 per cent increase. Raising the aid budget was a main objective of the Netherlands government under Prime Minister Johannes Den Uyl's Labor party. A new Christian Democrat-Liberal coalition government was elected in December under Andreas van Agt. This government has not yet announced any changes in development cooperation policy.

In addition to ODA, there are the flows from private sources. Taken together these add up to 1.96 per cent of GNP, or \$1,727 million for 1976—a 44 per cent increase over 1975.

The overall budget for the Netherlands' development co-operation program for 1978 is about \$1,687 million. In the past few years, the Netherlands, like Canada, has shifted the emphasis in bilateral (direct country-to-country) aid, (which is 35 per cent of the budget) to the poorest countries.

There is also \$122 million budgeted for 1978 for a special program involving aid and debt settlement with Surinam, which became independent from the Netherlands in 1975.

The Netherlands is tackling the Third World debt problem by setting aside about \$20 million for 1978 to alleviate the debts owed to them by a number of target countries. No international agreements have yet been reached on the subject of debt relief.

An additional 15 per cent of the budget, or \$257 million, is allotted for direct aid

to the poorest groups and the poorest countries. Under this category, the Netherlands is involved in projects in the Sahel, concentrating on road building, agriculture, the supply of drinking water, and irrigation. Water management is a priority for assistance to Vietnam and Laos, and the Netherlands is also giving humanitarian aid to the peoples of Namibia and Rhodesia.

The Netherlands, like Canada, feels that agricultural development and food production in Third World countries must be emphasized over food aid. While still stressing its importance, the Netherlands has cut the budget for food aid slightly.

The Netherlands recognizes the important role played by non-governmental organizations in developing countries, and in this regard allots 4.8 per cent of the budget to them, with intentions to increase the allocation to 6 per cent from 1980 onwards. (Canada's allotment to NGOs was about 3.9 per cent of disbursements last year.)

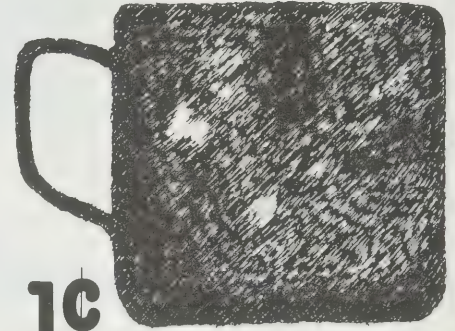
The Netherlands also has a program to restructure the Dutch economy by making grants available to Dutch firms willing to cease making certain products, so that developing countries, which can often make the products much more cheaply, can have the opportunity of exporting to rich countries. By mid-1977 grants of almost \$20 million had been paid out, mostly to textile and wood-processing industries. The firms can then undertake work that is profitable to the Netherlands. (Canada's North-South Institute suggested a similar program to the Canadian government in its report entitled "North South Encounter;" see article on page 21.)

The Netherlands government also collaborates with industry in a Finance Company for Developing Countries (FMO), which helps launch commercially-viable investment projects in developing countries. After recent changes it can now borrow money on capital markets, with the state—the largest shareholder—guaranteeing the loans. It also participates in the program to restructure the Dutch economy.

These details of the Dutch aid program were taken from "The Netherlands and the Third World; Development Co-operation in 1978." DD

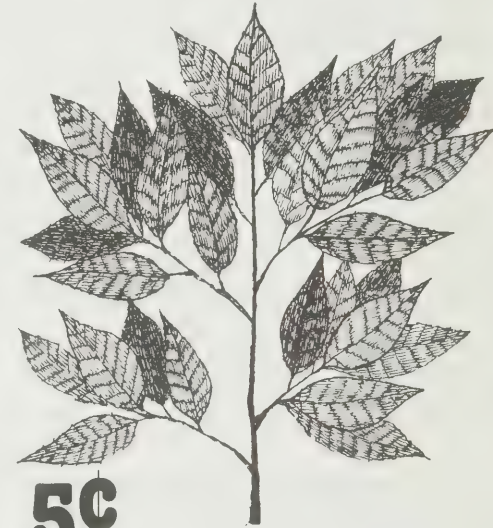
What your Friendship dollars can do

Source: Unitarian Service Committee



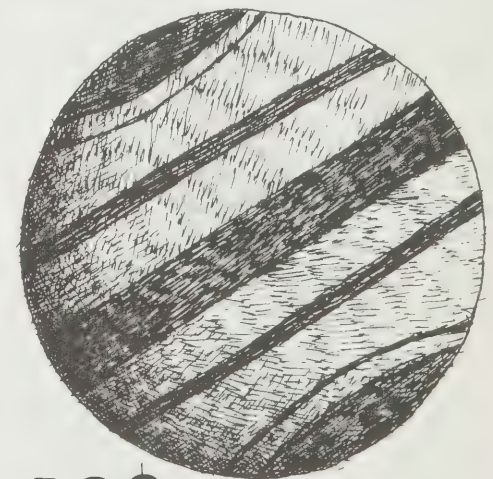
1¢

ships one cup of milk to a hungry child in a developing country.



5¢

produces one seedling at an afforestation project on the edge of Botswana's Kalahari Desert.

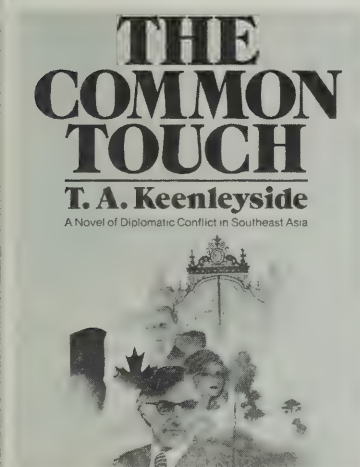


10¢

pays for one day's care of a child at the Kolo Kakoli Day Care Centre in Bangladesh.

The Common Touch

by T. A. Keenleyside
Doubleday, 230 pages, \$8.95



Terry Keenleyside, novelist, writes about James Rutherford, a Canadian external affairs officer in the fictitious Southeast Asian country of Bukara, whose dedication to true human development puts him in conflict with the Canadian government.

Terry Keenleyside, a former external affairs officer who has served in Indonesia and Thailand, writes about the darker side of CIDA, the strange world of establishment politics and tied aid.

The two Keenleysides merge in *The Common Touch* and it is at first difficult to tell whether this is historical fiction or fictionalized journalism. But at the end of the short, fast-paced story, it seems clear that Keenleyside has a burning desire to tell Canadians what goes on in developing countries and has chosen the novel as his vehicle.

I would have preferred him to choose a diary of his own experiences and do the reporting job that he is capable of. Doubtless he feels a continuing responsibility to the External Affairs Department not to violate confidences. Could a straightforward story not be told using public documents? That's probably the point. The real information about development—the elitism in the developing countries, the true effect on Canada of aid policies—is not publicly available despite CIDA's great show of openness.

Keenleyside resorted to fiction to make his point that much of our aid shores up rotten regimes and does nothing for the masses of people who naturally are attracted to revolutionary rebels.

Fair enough. No confidences violated. It's only a story. But Terry Keenleyside, novelist, and ex-external man, is also a professor of political science and his book is a vibrant supplement to all the textbooks on development.

Perhaps the hero, Rutherford, is a little too gung-ho (does a smart husband repeatedly send his beautiful wife alone to the cabana on weekends while he pours over the hidden meanings of the telexes from Ottawa written by some guy who sends telexes to show that he's busy?), and the Canadian ambassador a little too effete, and the local rebel a little too purist. But what of it? If you want great fiction try Hemingway.

Maybe Keenleyside can be criticized by his fellow professors in the English Department, but anybody who knows anything about the politics of aid will probably nod his head in affirmation.



Douglas Roche
Photo: Studio Wagner

reviewed by Douglas Roche

Douglas Roche is Progressive Conservative Member of Parliament for Edmonton Strathcona and member of the Parliamentary Committee on External Affairs and National Defence. He is author of *Justice Not Charity—a New Global Ethic for Canada*.

The New Internationalist

The New Internationalist, a monthly magazine on world development, now has an editorial and marketing office in Canada. Set up with the help of Canadian non-governmental organizations and CIDA, it will serve the Canadian audience and interpret development issues from a Canadian perspective.

Produced by a non-profit co-operative with no religious or political base, the magazine has about 50,000 readers in Britain, Canada, the U.S. and Australia. Each issue explores one theme and this year's issues include the topics of technology and development, the growth of cities and money, Latin America, and the multilateral lending agencies.

Subscriptions are \$12 a year. For information or subscriptions write to Wayne Ellwood, *New Internationalist*, 175 Carlton St., Toronto, Canada M5A 2K3. DD

Forward Together

Produced by Le Film sur Place
58 min—color Available from: DEC Films,
121 Avenue Rd., Toronto, Canada.

Forward Together is a Canadian film on Jamaica and the island's attempts to get a better deal for its people. It places abstract development concepts such as "the new international economic order" and "unequal terms of trade" in a human context. The film uses as a jumping off point the election in 1972 of the People's National Party under Michael Manley and examines some of that government's subsequent actions.

There is a brief sortie into Jamaican history and the continuing legacy of exploitation—economic, political and psychic. The economy of the country is still heavily dependent on sugar cane, bauxite and tourism. These are largely controlled by multinationals like Tate and Lyle of Britain and Alcan, a company with considerable Canadian ownership.

Given the tradition of authoritarian relations that exist in the Jamaican workplace, Prime Minister Manley is nothing if not ambitious when he says they are working to create an economy "that is socially controlled and socially responsible", aimed ultimately "at eliminating social injustice and creating an equality of circumstance for all". The film examines the social forces that work to support this aim and others that might work against it.

The film is intercut with segments from an interview with Michael Manley. He is persuasive and articulate as he puts the case for his party and people. The film is candid enough to admit that not all is sweetness and light and that good intentions are not easily translated into effective action. There is also an interview with some cane workers on a government sponsored co-operative project in which charges of neglect by management are raised.

As part of the strategy to reap real benefits from their resources, the government has indexed the price for bauxite ore to the price of aluminum ingots. Under this new scheme it raised \$175 million instead of the usual \$25 million, from the mining companies; this is ten times the amount Jamaica received in international aid in the last ten years—a telling point for the trade not aid school of development theory. DD

reviewed by Samphe Lhalungpa

Samphe Lhalungpa is a free-lance writer who is currently updating CIDA's catalogue of films on development, entitled "The Reel Image of Development."

The failure of aid and the need to find a better alternative

by Tim Brodhead

The inadequacy of aid as a tool for effecting a more equitable distribution of the world's wealth has become increasingly apparent. The hopes of achievement on the scale of the massive and successful Marshall Plan for the post-Second World War reconstruction of Europe have faded.

Economic inequality is probably greater now than it ever has been: the lowest income countries, with 26 per cent of the world's population, have a per capita GNP which is only 4 per cent of that of the developed countries which contain an approximately equal proportion of the world's people. Nor is this situation changing appreciably; the growth rate over the period 1960-70 was three times greater for the rich countries than for the poorest. Narrowing the gap is as far away as ever.

Only the expectations have changed. Not of the goal, of course—if anything, the poor are less resigned to their fate. But there is a lot more realism now about the likelihood of a voluntary fundamental shift of resources, and of the role of aid in this process. The first development decade expired on the new cry, "trade, not aid." The spotlight turned from the Pearson Report and official development assistance targets to UNCTAD commodity conferences, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, and negotiations for a new international economic order.

As aid performance has deteriorated—most industrialized countries are closer to .35 per cent than the target of .7 per cent of GNP set by the UN years ago and Canada has slipped back from .56 per cent in 1975 to .48 per cent in 1976—the focus of attention has shifted from national aid appropriations to bargaining between economic and political power blocs. Voluntary and therefore arbitrary, decisions about the allocation of national resources to meet international objectives have given way to international negotiations for a structural transformation of the world economic system.

The limitations of aid, presented as a kind of state philanthropy, have been underlined during the present economic crisis in the West. Adverse economic



conditions produce popular pressures to restrict aid spending, whether in an absolutely rich country like West Germany or in a relatively rich country like Britain where in a recent survey 64 per cent of the respondents said Britain was too poor to give aid. This might be compared to a decision, on the national level, to cut back unemployment insurance because there are too many without work.

If voluntary measures are not enough, can we foresee alternatives? Over the last century in North America the credo of individual free enterprise has been tamed and circumscribed in order to meet a range of social objectives. Can voluntary action on the national level be replaced by a set of international obligations to reach the overriding goal of meeting the basic needs of the majority of mankind? Glimmerings of this may already be discerned in the negotiations for a new international economic order and discussions about sharing the benefits to be derived from exploiting new areas of the globe such as the seabed and Antarctica.

Recently, too, Dame Barbara Ward dusted off an idea first mooted 30 years ago by Trygve Lie, first UN Secretary General, for a more automatic system of financial transfers in the form of a world tax. And, as in most modern societies, one of the aims of such a tax would be to redress gross inequalities of wealth, shifting resources from the rich North to the poor South.

There are problems in such an idea, of course, notably that of control and use. There would be little enthusiasm for turning over revenues to the United Nations as it presently functions, or for creating another swollen bureaucracy.

However, regional bodies, such as the European Economic Commission in Brussels might offer relevant models.

It would be essential that the aim of any form of global tax should be not to substitute for structural reform of the world economic system, but to act as an immediate step towards meeting the basic needs of people in the poorest countries. As such, there would have to be ways of ensuring that it was the people who benefited—not, as has been the case with much aid under present systems, a narrow local elite. Merely reinforcing governmental structures, particularly in repressive societies, is no recipe for development.

However, channels for wider popular involvement in development issues exist in most industrialized countries (voluntary agencies, education and pressure groups, the overseas linkages of trade unions and professional bodies), and mechanisms for government support of these have evolved.

A widening of our sense of social responsibility beyond national boundaries, like the introduction of the graduated income tax, would be resisted by the privileged but could eventually be seen as necessary for the greater good of society. Problems in instituting it could be overcome; what is needed is the political will to achieve the goal for which men and women have struggled. In the words of William Shakespeare more than 350 years ago: "So distribution should undo excess and each man have enough." **DD**

Tim Brodhead is director of Inter Pares, an Ottawa-based voluntary agency which operates projects and supports development work undertaken by local groups and organizations in Bangladesh and in West Africa. He spent four years with Canadian University Services Overseas (CUSO) in Nigeria and from 1973 to 1977 was the first director of Euro-Action ACORD, an operational consortium of 20 European and Canadian development agencies.

Readers of **Development Directions** are invited to send submissions to this column. Items should not be more than 1,000 words, preferably typed and double spaced. Send submissions to: Editor

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DEVELOPMENT DIRECTIONS

A NEWSMAGAZINE ON INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

JUNE/JULY 1978

ENERGY SUPPLY:

- PERSPECTIVES ON THE GLOBAL CRISIS
- "PETROLEUM AND BEYOND"

DISARMAMENT AND DEVELOPMENT:

SWORDS INTO PLOUGHSHARES?

SELF-HELP DEVELOPMENT:

- COVISAMA IN NICARAGUA
- PROSHIKA IN BANGLADESH

ENTEL PERU:

CANADIAN EXPERTISE HELPS BRIDGE THE ANDES

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A note from the editor-in-chief

This issue of *Development Directions* highlights one of the most pressing problems facing both the developed and developing worlds: energy supply. Noted oil economist, Ruth Troeller, discusses the aftermath of the 1973 oil crisis and its effect on North-South relations. Jeff Carruthers, winner of a National Business Writing Award for an article on energy, reports on a conference at University of Western Ontario designed for Canadian journalists to give them a better idea of the inter-dependence of the "North" and the "South" on this vital global issue.

Our hard-working correspondent at the United Nations, Jeff Endrst, provides a thought-provoking analysis on the relationship between armaments and development in the Third World. He also reports on the relationship between technology and development and the Canadian contributions to the emerging nation of Namibia.

An article on a successful housing co-operative in Nicaragua by Quebecer, Louis Bérubé, demonstrates the successful application in a developing country of the time-honored principles of the co-operative movement.

The role that Canadian telecommunications expertise is playing in the development of Peru is described in an article by Brian Upton, CIDA's information officer on Latin America.

Special thanks to the following people for their help in preparing this second issue of *Development Directions*: Peter Haines, Roger Levett and Allan Thornley.

Paul Doucet
Editor-in-chief

Development Directions is published nine times a year by the Canadian International Development Agency under the authority of the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honorable Don C. Jamieson. Issues are printed in January, February, March, April, May, July, September, October, and November.

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The opinions expressed in this magazine do not necessarily reflect the opinion or policies of the Canadian International Development Agency.

Development Directions welcomes letters to the editor. Submissions should be addressed to:

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Development Directions est également disponible gratuitement en français sous le titre *Directions du Développement*. Toute demande doit être adressée au responsable de la diffusion. *Directions du Développement* L'Agence canadienne de développement international.

ISSN 0705-064X

Second Class Mail
Registration Number 4353

Contract No. OKX7-1173
Beauregard Press
Printed in Canada

Cover:

Energy supply:
a crucial North-South issue
(Photo: John De Visser, NFB Phototèque.
Pacific Pete Refinery, Taylor, British
Columbia.)

DEVELOPMENT DIRECTIONS

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Perspectives on the global energy crisis

by Ruth Troeller

An expert on world energy supply looks at our prospects for the future, five years after the crisis.

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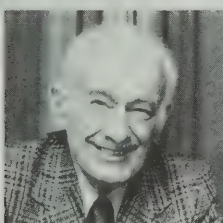


Housing Nicaragua's poor COVISAMA

by Louis Bérubé

In San Marcos, Nicaragua the rural poor formed a housing co-operative and built a better life for themselves.

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The dean of Canadian co-opérants

by Raymond Grenier
Louis Bérubé, a fisheries expert, has spent more than 50 years working with the poor in Canada and the Third World.

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ENTEL-Peru

by Brian Upton

In the dense jungles of Peru, Canadian engineers are building a communications link between the coast and the interior.

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Photo feature

Proshika

Pictures tell the story of a successful Bangladesh project in self-help.

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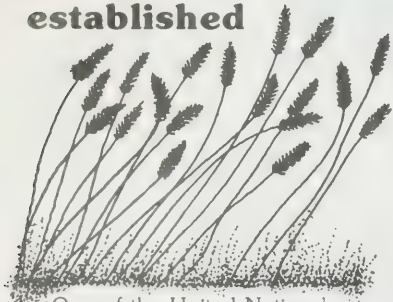
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Agriculture

New fund established



One of the United Nations' newest agencies, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) is ready to function after three years' preparation.

The developed countries have pledged almost \$571 million and the oil producing and exporting countries have pledged almost \$435 million. The fund now has enough capital to operate for three years and is able to lend up to \$350 million a year.

IFAD is designed specifically to help the rural poor. Its main objectives include increasing food production, reducing rural poverty and improving nutrition.

IFAD plans to rely on established aid agencies during its initial stages. Most projects are to be evaluated and financed jointly with the World Bank, FAO, and the development banks. Most disbursements will be in the form of interest-free 50-year loans with 20 years grace.

Canada was a founding member of IFAD and has pledged \$33 million in three equal instalments over the next three years.

Douglas Lindores, director of CIDA's UN Programs Division, is an alternate executive-director on IFAD's executive board.

Women and farmers to have input in FAO conference

Women and farmers have been promised they will have a say when international policies and action programs for rural development are formulated at the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural De-

velopment (WCARRD) to be held next July in Rome.

Maximum participation of these two groups was among the recommendations of an international group of high-level experts planning the conference. The conference was called by Edouard Saouma, director-general of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

The conference has been called to stimulate rural development measures aimed at eradicating poverty. In addition to calling for significant participation by women and farmers, the experts planning the eight-day meeting also said that the involvement of non-governmental organizations representing farmers and peasants was necessary since they would be directly affected by the outcome of the conference.

Population

IPPF head pessimistic about progress

The likelihood that the UN Commission on Population will be disbanded next year was deplored by Carl Wahren, secretary-general of the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF), at a recent meeting with CIDA officials in Ottawa.

Mr. Wahren said he fears that population issues will not receive the attention they deserve if they are considered for only one or two days a year during the deliberations of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC), as is now the plan. The commission, although a part of ECOSOC, now has separate deliberations.

He called on all aid donors to integrate family planning activities into their socio-economic development projects in such areas as rural development, health care, education, and women's programs.

MPs conference on population and development set for 1979



Photo: Duncan Cameron, Capital Press

Burgeoning Third World populations are the concern of an international group of parliamentarians which includes four Canadian MPs.

An international conference of parliamentarians on population and development is scheduled for August 1979 in Sri Lanka. Legislators from Canada, Japan, the Federal Republic of Germany, Britain, the United States, Colombia, India, Mexico and Sri Lanka attended a planning conference in Tokyo at the end of March.

The delegates are all members of an international working group of parliamentarians concerned with population and development. The group was formed by Canada, Japan, the Federal Republic of Germany, Britain and the U.S. to improve communications between legislators of all countries and to foster understanding of population-related programs. The other four countries joined at the Tokyo conference.

Four Canadian MPs participated: Dr. Frank Philbrook (Liberal-Halton), Dr. Bruce Halliday (P.C.-Oxford), Dr. Frank Maine (Liberal-Wellington) and Stuart Leggett (NDP-New Westminster). Briefings on population were held for them at CIDA prior to their attendance at the conference (see DEVELOPMENT DIRECTIONS, May 1978).

A steering committee for the 1979 conference was established with one representative from each of the nine participating countries. Dr. Philbrook was named general secretary,

Nobusuke Kishi, former prime minister of Japan, was named honorary chairman, and Ifigenia Martinez of Mexico was named chairman.

The 1979 conference will be financed primarily by the UN Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA). Delegates will seek additional financing from government and private sources in their respective countries.

Humanitarian assistance

Red Cross receives grants for humanitarian relief



Photo: Red Cross

Red Cross humanitarian work in the Third World receives assistance through CIDA.

Canada is giving \$360,000 to the League of Red Cross Societies (LRCS) and to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) for humanitarian relief. The grants are to assist refugees from Zaire now living in Angola and to help inhabitants of the Ogaden region of Ethiopia. The funds are also to help the ICRC to continue its role as a provider of humanitarian services.

The League of Red Cross Societies is receiving \$200,000 to help about 150,000 Katangans from Zaire's Shaba Province now living in Angola. Shaba has long been the scene of widespread civil conflict which has

caused many of its civilian non-combatants to seek refuge in Angola. The Red Cross estimates that at least 50,000 of the Katanga refugees live in utter destitution.

Canada is also granting \$50,000 to the International Committee of the Red Cross to help alleviate suffering in the Horn of Africa. Recent hostilities have caused some 300,000 Somali inhabitants of Ethiopia's Ogaden to leave towns and seek refuge in the countryside. Neither the Ethiopian government nor the dissident Somali forces has the capacity to deal with the resulting civil disruption or to treat the wounded. The grant brings Canada's total donations to the area to \$250,000.

The ICRC is also receiving a \$110,000 grant to help bolster its role as protector of prisoners-of-war, political detainees, and as provider of assistance to their families.

The funds to both the ICRC and the LRCS are being channelled through the Canadian Red Cross Society. The Canadian Red Cross has donated \$10,000 of its own funds to the relief efforts in the Ogaden.

Multilateral institutions

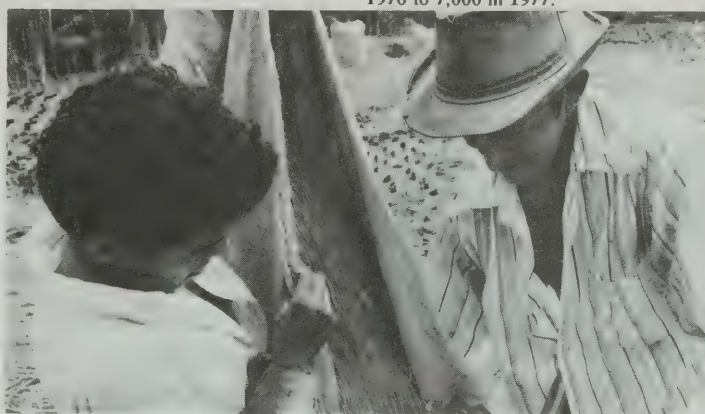
CIDA official to head AGE COP program

Simon Venne has been appointed director-general of the Special Development Program which he put into effect at the Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation (AGECOP). The organization of about 24 francophone countries has headquarters in Paris.

Mr. Venne, formerly CIDA's co-ordinator of federal-provincial relations in the area of international development, has been working with AGE COP since 1975 on the implementation of this program. It will focus on projects in the fields of education, culture, science and technology.

IDB conference held in Vancouver

Photo: David Mangurian, IDB



Canadian finance minister, Jean Chrétien, set the tone for the annual conference of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) April 17-19 in Vancouver when he criticized the United States for falling behind in its payments to the international bank.

As host and chairman of the conference being held in Canada for the first time, Mr. Chrétien was the first representative of the 41 member nations to be heard, so he knew his words would have an impact.

"A lot of people had expressed concern about this problem to me and I felt I had to say something," Mr. Chrétien said later.

As it turned out, Canada's position on U.S. arrears was supported by virtually every speaker, nervous over the financial implications to the bank of the holdback of funds by a major contributor.

Fully a third of the bank's funds come from the U.S. which is having trouble getting approval from Congress for its 1977 and 1978 appropriations for the bank.

Finding funds to continue the bank's work in promoting development in Latin America was the chief concern of the conference. In his inaugural address, Antonio Ortiz Mena of Mexico, bank president, called on member countries to approve an \$8 billion increase in the bank's capital resources.

With this in mind, delegates approved a resolution calling on the board of governors to seek a fifth replenishment of bank

A variety of rice developed with the help of IDB funding enabled these farmers in Ecuador to increase their yield from 2,500 kilos per hectare in 1976 to 7,000 in 1977.

funds. They are to submit a report September 30, a deadline Mr. Mena said was set to coincide with the U.S. fiscal year. The hope is that this will give the U.S. time to renew its status with the bank. The convention also endorsed a resolution to establish a working committee to do a full evaluation of the bank's functions and policies. It will report at next year's conference, for which the date and place have not yet been set.

Behind the idea for an evaluation is the fear that the bank is not responding to changing world economic conditions. Of particular concern is the emergence of world currencies that fluctuate wildly.

The committee will consider operating with a variable interest rate or a basket of currencies that could be adjusted once or twice a year. There are also suggestions that the bank should finance Latin American exports. As part of the evaluation, the committee will also consider complaints by some nations that there has been an over-emphasis on providing low-cost funds to poorer areas of Latin America at the expense of areas with greater potential.

Canada joined the bank in 1972 and has played a pivotal role. In those six years Canada has provided about \$700 million, ranking it as one of the larger contributors.

Mr. Chrétien was so pleased at the large Canadian business contingent—about 200—at the conference that he arranged to

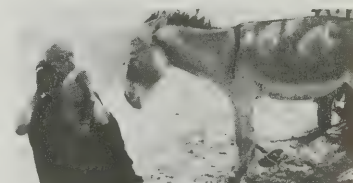
meet with them.

He believes Canadian entrepreneurs can be more vigorous in their pursuit of Latin American markets, which was the gist of his remarks when he spoke with the business leaders in Vancouver.

During the conference, the bank approved 13 loans involving nearly \$300 million to 10 countries. (See also *Development Perspectives* item on the IDB, p. 00.)

Africa

CIDA sends emergency relief to Sahel



This woman and her skeletal child in Mauritania are victims of the drought in the Sahel.

Canada is providing \$8 million for emergency food aid to help five Northwest African countries—Senegal, Mauritania, Mali, Chad and Gambia—recover from last year's severe drought.

Mauritania will receive \$1.9 million worth of aid to cover the purchasing, transportation, handling, bagging and distribution of 8,000 tonnes of Canadian wheat.

Senegal and Mali will receive a total of \$2.1 million for the purchase, transportation, handling, bagging and distribution of 5,000 tonnes of Canadian wheat for each country.

Of Canada's total \$8 million commitment for this emergency food aid program, \$3.5 million has been earmarked to cover the purchasing, transportation, handling, bagging and distribution of 13,000 tonnes of sorghum.

The sorghum is destined for Gambia (3,000 tonnes), Senegal (5,000 tonnes) and Chad (5,000 tonnes). Sorghum, the most commonly eaten grain in the region, is not grown in Canada, so it will be bought on

Third World markets.

Discussions are being held with the UN's World Food Program to have the agency supervise the corn and wheat shipments and the purchase and delivery of the sorghum.

More than a dozen other countries have responded with goods and funds to an appeal made by the Interstate Committee for the Fight Against Drought in the Sahel. The area has a history of drought and famine. In the past few years Canada has given \$66.67 million to help alleviate this problem.

Canadian firm to construct radio link

Five West African countries—Senegal, Mali, Upper Volta, Niger and Benin—will benefit from transmission facilities to be installed by a Canadian firm for the Pan African telecommunications network (PANAFTTEL).

CIDA is providing \$23 million in grant funds for completion of the project under contract to Elinca Communications Limited of Ottawa.

PANAFTTEL is a large-scale project costing approximately \$150 million. It is designed to improve communications among African countries by setting up a continental radio-relay telecommunications system.

This system, developed over a period of several years, initially calls for the construction of a 20,000-kilometre transmission corridor and 18 international switching centres to be located throughout the African continent.

Canadian participation in this project includes the construction of part of the regional network in West Africa, the two ends of which will be connected to the satellite ground stations in Dakar, Senegal and Lagos, Nigeria.

More than half the \$23 million will be spent on equipment manufactured in Canada. The remainder will be for installation, engineering, administration and transportation costs as well as for the cost of support for the construction teams. The project is expected to be completed in 1980.

Asia

CIDA gives loans and lines of credit to Pakistan

Photo: Carle Delaroché-Vernet



CIDA loans are helping expand the facilities of the Tarbela Dam in Pakistan.

Up to \$80 million to help Pakistan increase its hydroelectric power generating capacity and to provide a line of credit for the purchase of Canadian manufactured goods is being made available through CIDA.

The largest of three development loans provides \$40 million for the purchase of four 175-megawatt Canadian generating units for the Tarbela Dam on the Indus River. Tarbela, the world's largest earth and rock-filled dam, is a billion dollar project co-ordinated by the World Bank and financed by several donor countries.

The project is designed to irrigate about 400,000 hectares (1 million acres) of new farmland and also provide about half of Pakistan's power requirements by 1985.

Canada has previously contributed a total of \$43 million to the Tarbela Development Fund. The Asian Development Bank is financing civil works and additional equipment for the current phase of the Tarbela expansion.

A second loan of up to \$10 million will cover Canada's contribution to an international fund to meet the unexpected cost of repairs and operational modifications to the dam. This loan will be untied and will help cover local costs in Pakistan.

The third agreement, a \$30 million development line of credit, will allow Pakistan to purchase \$10 million of Canadian equipment, spare parts and services in the next three years. The line of credit is designed to help strengthen

Pakistan's industrial, transport, energy, and other priority sectors while helping the country cope with a balance-of-payments deficit.

All three agreements are interest-free and repayable over 50 years, with 10 years grace, as are most CIDA development loans.

Caribbean

Group formed to promote co-operation



Photo: Felix Kerr

This abandoned sugar factory in Dominica illustrates the economic plight of some Caribbean islands that once produced sugar but now import it because production is uneconomical.

Early next year, a Caribbean Group for Economic Co-operation is expected to be established as a result of a meeting of 30 governments and 15 international agencies.

The group would be composed of World Bank member countries in the Caribbean and other member countries and international agencies interested in making substantial contributions to the economic development of the area.

The new group would serve as a mechanism for the co-ordination of existing external assistance to the Caribbean and for the continuing review of national and regional activities related to economic development. Subgroups would also be formed to deal with the needs of individual countries or groups of countries to examine specific proposals for regional cooperation.

Caribbean governments represented at the first meeting were Antigua, Bahamas, Barbados, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Netherlands Antilles, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla, St. Lucia, and Trinidad and Tobago.

Upcoming conferences

TCDC meeting scheduled



A United Nations Conference on Technical Co-operation Among Developing Countries (TCDC) is scheduled to convene in late August in Buenos Aires.

It is expected that the conference will agree on a world plan of action for the promotion and advancement of technical co-operation among the nations of the Third World. The conference will be the first specific occasion for governments to consult each other and seek common approaches to achieving technical co-operation and collective self-reliance among developing countries.

Health meeting to be held in USSR

An international conference on primary health care co-sponsored by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) is to be held in Alma Alta, USSR, September 6-12.

In 1976, the World Health Assembly decided to convene the international conference as a means to promote primary health care as a policy, and to increase awareness of this new approach and of the necessity of gaining broad political support.

This policy is a departure from past programs in that it involves people in decisions about their own health and welfare rather than simply being the objects of government services. A large number of non-governmental organizations are expected at the conference.

Namibia approaches nationhood

by Jeff Endrst



When South West Africa becomes independent at the end of 1978, it will mark the end of a long struggle for liberation and a beginning of perhaps an even longer and more difficult effort to mold one million people with different ethnic backgrounds into a nation of Namibia.

The actual conditions which will influence the country's political and economic direction are impossible to predict at this time.

South Africa, which has administered the former German colony for the past 58 years, says it will withdraw from this strategically located and mineral-rich territory which covers roughly the combined size of France and West Germany. But there is uncertainty as to who will inherit political power, and through what means.

Canada, the United States, Britain, France and West Germany have undertaken an initiative to ensure that transition of power in Namibia would be peaceful and fair. They have labored for more than a year through shuttle diplomacy and so-called proximity talks to close the gap between South Africa's concept of the territory's future, and the hopes and goals of the South West African People's Organization (SWAPO) which has long been recognized by the

UN as the sole and legitimate representative of the Namibian people.

Canada is among those countries, however, which believe that SWAPO should submit to a democratic test of its popularity through pre-independence elections organized and supervised by the United Nations. The so-called Western Five plan for Namibia's independence envisages that the fairness of the election process would be ensured through the presence of some 5,000 UN troops and 1,000 UN civilian specialists.

The plan was put before a special UN General Assembly on Namibia in April by Canada's Secretary of State for External Affairs Don Jamieson. South Africa has accepted. SWAPO has embraced the main thrust of the plan. But it has asked that negotiations be reopened on a few issues on which there are different interpretations or which, in the case of Namibia's only deep-water port, the Walvis Bay, had been set aside for future bilateral negotiations between Namibia and South Africa.

The available options are limited to two choices: one is the Western plan as the apparently maximum obtainable concession from South Africa on Namibia's independence determined by democratic means. The other is the prospect of continued guerrilla warfare by SWAPO against internal forces in Namibia which would inherit power in the absence of an agreement.

In the meantime, the entire United Nations system, including the UN Institute for Namibia, continues working on the assumption that whichever course the Namibians will take in the foreseeable future, they will end up needing international assistance in their nation-building.

The Lusaka, Zambia-based UN Institute for Namibia is geared exactly to that priority. It was officially opened by Zambian president, Kenneth Kaunda, at a ceremony in 1976 on Namibia Day which falls on August 26th. Its goal is to provide Namibia with a core of trained middle-level administrators. The three guiding prin-

ciples of the Institute's operations are: a Namibian outlook; an African character; and an international scope.

There are currently 200 Namibian refugee students at the institute. Some of them are expected to graduate this summer, although Martti Ahtisaari of Finland, the current UN Commissioner for Namibia, said in an interview in New York that the first graduation may be postponed for one year.

Canada has been among the earliest and the most generous supporters of the institute, Mr. Ahtisaari said. It has contributed \$100,000 each for 1976 and 1977, and has pledged another \$100,000 for this year.

Canada is now satisfied, its New York-based diplomats say, that the institute functions according to agreed plans. At first, there appeared to be too many teachers. It originally also appeared difficult to satisfy a stipulation that 20 per cent of the students should be non-members of SWAPO in order to ensure ideological diversity.

Informed UN sources indicated that the curriculum at the institute is "socialist-oriented" but that there are "few Marxists" among the students.

Mr. Ahtisaari pointed out that there are many more applicants than openings at the institute. He hinted that the educational background of the students differs widely and that language is an elementary problem because many of the students had been taught in Afrikaans in their earlier schooling.

The institute does not aspire to be Namibia's "university in exile." It is instead an educational facility for research and training which will be applicable to a free and independent Namibia. In the words of the first UN Commissioner for Namibia, Sean MacBride, the Irish Nobel Peace Prize winner, the Lusaka Institute should provide cadres for the future Namibian civil service. It should also develop blueprints and plans for policies and programs in all spheres of the new government in Windhoek.

It is presumed that the Institute would move from Lusaka to Windhoek soon after independence. It is not unlikely that

its faculty would eventually form the basis of Namibia's first university. There are no institutions of higher learning in South West Africa beyond teacher training schools now. All levels of education are segregated by race. The education of some 90,000 whites is compulsory. For non-whites, it is not, says the UN.

This is why some 500 Namibian refugees are attending schools in Nigeria and other African countries on various stipends. For the same reason, the International Labor Organization (ILO) in Geneva has come up with a two-year plan for some 300 youngsters from Namibia and Rhodesia to teach them skills necessary in nation-building. They will go to the ILO Center for Advanced and Technical Training in Turin, Italy. Other trainees will be assigned to facilities in the so-called frontline States such as Zambia, Botswana, Mozambique and Tanzania.

The World Health Organization (WHO) in Geneva is looking into contingency medical plans for a free Namibia.

The Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization will help the Namibians with maritime skills.

The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in Rome will assist in the preparation of legislation on the protection of Namibia's fishery resources.

The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna is looking into Namibia's possibilities with exploitation and commercialization of uranium of which the country has sizeable deposits.

The UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in Vienna has been assigned to work out an industrial development assistance program for Namibia.

Administering Namibia will be a challenging task.

Those in charge of the Namibia Institute in Lusaka are confident that its graduates will measure up to the challenge. **DD**

Jeff Endrst is a journalist based at the United Nations in New York who specializes in international issues and Third World development.

Co-operatives

The CUC receives \$983,000 from CIDA

The Co-operative Union of Canada (CUC) will receive a total of \$983,000 from CIDA, between now and 1980, to implement an international co-operative program with an estimated cost of \$1.1 million.

The granting of this subsidy will enable the CUC to draw up an inventory, by sector, of the human resources available in the Canadian co-operative movement, undertake five co-operative projects in developing countries, create a small-project fund, maintain an international development bureau and provide CIDA with advisory services on the co-operative movement.

The CUC, founded in 1909, is a national association of 31 Canadian co-operatives. In 1974, it set up an international development bureau, the Co-operative Development Foundation, with the aim of encouraging Canadian co-operatives to work with co-operatives in other countries.

News follow-up

Habitat Commission established



A Human Settlements Commission has been created by the UN General Assembly to carry out the recommendations for action approved by the UN Conference on Human Settlements in Vancouver in 1976.

The commission will be supported by a secretariat—the

Centre for Human Settlements—led by an executive director to be appointed by the secretary general of the UN. Although based in Nairobi, Kenya, the centre will have officers throughout the world and most of its work will be conducted through the UN regional economic commissions.

According to a statement issued by the Canadian Department of External Affairs, the establishment of the commission “provides for an efficient reorganization of human settlements activity within the United Nations system and should lead to more effective international support for the national action that is urgently required in this field, especially in developing countries.”



In Ottawa some 15,000 walkers turned out May 6 to participate in the eleventh annual Metres for Millions walk. Initial estimates of funds raised for international development are \$225,000. Walks also took place in Vancouver, Edmonton and Toronto.

Photos: Roberta Borg, CIDA

Photo: Andrew Bako

Labor leader praises CIDA program in Kenya

Canadians may be justifiably proud of the assistance given to Kenya through CIDA, according to John F. Simonds, executive director of the Canadian Labour Congress.

Mr. Simonds toured the eastern African country in September 1977, with an international group of trade union journalists interested in development. The tour was sponsored by CIDA, the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) to give the journalists an opportunity to examine and evaluate aid programs.

He reports that the journalists concluded that priority should be given to the kinds of assistance that will meet the objectives of the ILO's World Employment Program—job creation, pursuit of a basic needs strategy and the application of appropriate technology.

Kenya was chosen because it presented a “startling” example of unemployment and underemployment, as well as an opportunity to examine a wide range of aid programs.

The country's population, now estimated at 15 million, is expected to double by the late 1990s because it has one of the highest population growth rates in the world.

Only one in 10 adults is involved in the “formal” sector—working for a wage or salary—and only one in seven school leavers is likely to find a job, a ratio that is expected to rise to one in 14 by 1980.

That leaves 90 per cent of the eligible work force involved in subsistence farming or trying to eke out a meagre existence in the “informal” sector, Simonds observed.

“And many small holdings are disappearing as the subsistence farmer, unable to raise cash crops, is forced to sell his land in order to raise money to pay the required fees to educate his children.”

One of the country's greatest needs in education is in the area of technical training, a need Canada hopes to meet through the Kenya Technical

Teachers College—a \$30 million project which includes \$21 million in Canadian assistance for the physical facilities and also 30 Canadian specialists in teacher training plus \$9 million from the Kenyans themselves.

In the field of worker education, Mr. Simonds found it “gratifying” to discover that two trade unionists, who were trained under a program financed by the CLC with CIDA assistance, now are working full time in a comprehensive education program sponsored by the Kenya Central Organization of Trade Unions.

Simonds said grass-roots aid aimed at meeting basic needs “is often much more appreciated than prestige development projects pursued by donor countries.”

An example is an ILO project in which George Green, a former bricklayer from England, is helping villagers in 17 African countries. Green's team assesses health care and water supply needs and the existence of local materials that can be processed into saleable items and provide local jobs. Then the team provides the appropriate training as needed.

“The training could range from simple repairs of community pumps used to supply water, to the more sophisticated area of crop rotation, and the production of building materials,” Simonds observed.

“All of us left Kenya with a determination to press our respective governments to provide assistance to expand this worthwhile project,” he added.

Simonds said the journalists' group also came upon a team of 12 Canadians engaged in a mineralogical survey, financed by a \$1.1 million CIDA loan. “If successful, it could bring a tremendous boost to the Kenyan economy,” he said.

To February this year, Canada has provided \$20.5 million in grants to Kenya and an additional \$14.8 million in loans for a variety of assistance programs.

DD

Labor

CLC urges increase in Canada's foreign assistance budget

The Canadian Labour Congress is "deeply disturbed" by the wealth gap between the industrial countries and the rest of the world, according to a policy statement on international affairs, adopted by the 2,500 delegates to its recent biennial convention, in Quebec City. The CLC intends to put the viewpoints of Canadian workers forward to the Canadian government and to international organizations, "requesting them to work for a more peaceful world, one based on fair shares among and within nations, bringing an end to child labour, subsistence wages and unemployment."

The statement renews the commitment of the 2.3 million-member congress to the work in developing countries of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) and the International Labour Organization (ILO) and praises them for supporting a strategy of "satisfying the basic needs of the world's growing population."

It calls on the Canadian government to increase its foreign aid program to one per cent of the gross national product, and to ensure that it is "clearly designed to aid the people who live on the margin of the development process, the unorganized poor and the unemployed, and to generate respect for their human and trade union rights."

And it pledges the Congress to help them to organize and play their part in their national development. "What is needed," the statement says, "is development from below, and a people-oriented development strategy which can be implemented with trade union participation in donor countries as well as in the recipient countries."

Francis Blanchard, ILO director-general, in an address to the convention delegates, said a voluntary increase of \$200,000 in Canada's support

will help make up the financial loss caused by the United States withdrawal from the UN agency.

Otto Kersten, ICFTU general secretary, who also addressed the convention, said economic justice is an essential requirement for the exercise of human and trade union rights in developing countries.

Health

WHO determines new priorities



This year, the World Health Organization (WHO) celebrates the thirtieth anniversary of its founding.

The WHO program for the next five years has the following six priorities: implementation of complete health services, promotion of a healthy environment, training of health care personnel, biomedical research and research on health services, and the development and support of WHO projects.

In order to reduce the discrepancy between the health levels of industrialized countries and developing countries, WHO has redirected its activities so that by 1980, 60 per cent of its ordinary budget will be allocated to technical co-operation and services in the countries needing it most.

By "technical co-operation" the organization means activities which contribute directly and significantly to improving health through methods that the developing countries are capable of utilizing at a cost they can afford. An additional sum of \$41 million may be earmarked for technical co-operation activities between now and 1981.

CIDA's contribution to WHO will reach \$2.5 million for the year 1978-1979.

Tea in search of stable market



Photo: Jim White, CIDA

Experts from some 50 countries are scheduled to meet in July in search of an international tea agreement designed to take this commodity off the list of the most depressed agricultural items.

Working through the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), these experts represent producer and consumer countries committed to stabilization of the price of tea. The intended price level should be remunerative and just for producers and equitable for consumers. There has not been an International Tea Agreement since 1954.

There is now general agreement on the possibility of promoting demand since one of the major problems of the continuing tea crisis is over-supply. This requires supply management, notably through a buffer stock scheme supported by a system of export entitlements. Demand expansion could be achieved through improved access to markets, promotion of tea consumption, and through steps to enhance marketing and distribution.

The plan calls for the establishment of three funds: a buffer stock fund, a diversification fund, and a promotion fund. It indicates a five-year cost of between \$145 and \$215 million to run and administer these funds.

Financing of the plan remains among the key sticking points. Tea exporting countries are

The tea harvest is an important income earner for some of the world's poorest countries, but prices in recent years have been low.

among the poorest in the Third World. Traditional consumer countries find it difficult to invest large sums of money in a scheme designed to increase the price of tea for their consumers.

The stocking of tea, despite its perishable and heterogeneous nature, has been assessed as feasible and practicable proposition from the technical viewpoint.

The buffer stock plan is considered vital to tea-growing countries like India, Sri Lanka, China and Kenya because they count among the poorest and because of the sharp fluctuations of the tea market since 1955. An UNCTAD review on developments in the world tea economy shows that from 1955 to 1974, tea prices declined steadily. Since 1976, they rose from 131.5 U.S. cents per kilo to 415.1 in April 1977, only to fall again to the present level of 212 U.S. cents.

The tea negotiations have lasted a decade already. They are part of the international community's aspirations for stable conditions in commodity trade. Tea is especially important to the developing world because it is one of the 10 "core" commodities (within the 18 covered by the UN Integrated Program for Commodities) that are mainly exported by developing countries and are therefore to receive priority attention in efforts to promote price stabilization agreements. **DD**

LOOKING FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR THE THIRD WORLD

by Jeff Endrst

The UN Conference on Science and Technology to be held in Vienna August 20-31, 1979 has one central but difficult goal: how to redirect attention from moonshots and space shuttles to simple plumbing and drainage in the Third World.

The basic idea is to come up with simple and inexpensive technology for enriching the lives of some two billion people around the world.

The basic problem is that this is easier said than done, even if the countries with the know-how agreed to co-operate selflessly, with speed and dedication.

The challenge is to narrow the enormous scientific and technological gap between the "haves" and the "have-nots." At this point, most poor countries cannot afford even the basic conveniences of life. The few who can afford them financially are often in no position to absorb them for lack of local infrastructure. The Vienna conference could change all that. Several preparatory UN meetings have produced a tentative outline of an agenda with special focus on a world program of action. The proposed plan will centre on the task of overcoming obstacles to the development, adaptation, and application of science and technology for development.

Joao Frank da Costa of Brazil, secretary-general of the Vienna conference, says that the developing countries know what they do not want from the conference. He says that they consider "unreal and undesirable" the single model approach to development which was fashionable immediately after the Second World War. The idea of "intermediary or second-class technology" should also be rejected, he feels. To accept this idea, da Costa argues, would be

tantamount to denying the very essence of the development process.

Da Costa told a recent meeting on this subject in Geneva that the Vienna conference should also avoid the tendency to divide nations into "have" and "have-not" groups, and to place them in rigid set-ups. He sees the answer in a progressive transformation of the economic base of the developing countries in which they could readily absorb the most complex, modern and sophisticated technologies.

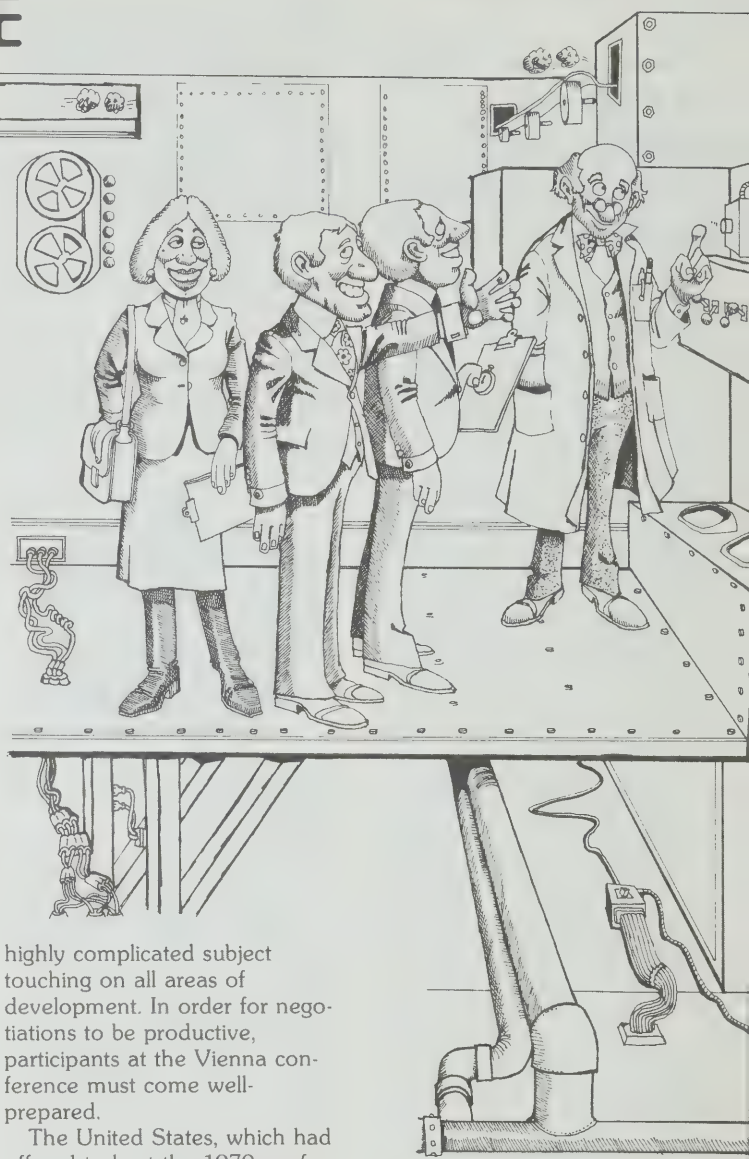
India appeared to reflect the current mood of the Third World when it told the preparatory committee for the Vienna parley that the conference should lay the foundation for the launching of the third and subsequent United Nations Development Decades.

Britain spoke of inherent dangers such as expectation that science could come up with short-cuts for development. It cited the problem of providing adequate water supply as an example where administrative efficiency rather than science can provide the answer.

The Netherlands spoke of the need to approach the Vienna conference with a sense of realism. It said bluntly that the application of science and technology requires "a solid educational and organizational infrastructure." It also feared that uncontrolled development of science and technology could be counter-productive.

Sweden underscored two main issues: how to build up the capacity for development and self-sufficiency of Third World countries, and how science and technology could be mobilized to make a constructive contribution to that process.

Canada stressed the need for on-going consultations. It said that science and technology is a



highly complicated subject touching on all areas of development. In order for negotiations to be productive, participants at the Vienna conference must come well-prepared.

The United States, which had offered to host the 1979 conference, appeared understanding and co-operative, but restrained. It simply said it believed that U.S. technology could play a significant role in translating indicated goals into economic reality.

The developing countries tended to express different concerns.

Mexico did not want the Vienna conference to turn into a scientific and technological fair.

Iran saw it as a launching pad for a new world order in science and technology.

Guinea said there is a need for "educational and spiritual facilities," radical changes in the relationship between donor and recipient countries, and "mobilization of the force and will for

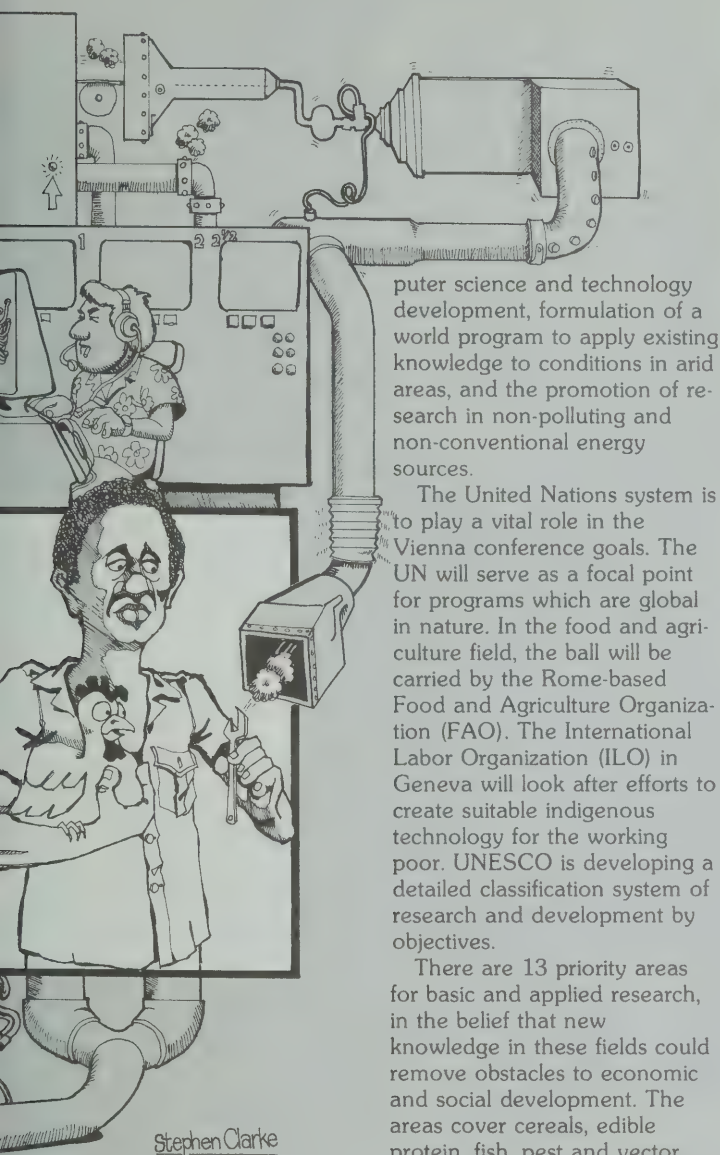
creative work."

Ghana interpreted the Vienna goals as an expression of concern for the realization of a new world economic order based on self-reliance and international co-operation.

Romania saw a solution in mustering sufficient political will to stop the "brain drain" from the developing countries to established centres of science and prospects of higher pay.

The Soviet Union took the political approach. It called for a new basis of international co-operation in this area and warned that the Vienna conference would have little chance of succeeding unless detente was extended from the political to the military sphere as well.

The conference in 1979 will



puter science and technology development, formulation of a world program to apply existing knowledge to conditions in arid areas, and the promotion of research in non-polluting and non-conventional energy sources.

The United Nations system is to play a vital role in the Vienna conference goals. The UN will serve as a focal point for programs which are global in nature. In the food and agriculture field, the ball will be carried by the Rome-based Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). The International Labor Organization (ILO) in Geneva will look after efforts to create suitable indigenous technology for the working poor. UNESCO is developing a detailed classification system of research and development by objectives.

There are 13 priority areas for basic and applied research, in the belief that new knowledge in these fields could remove obstacles to economic and social development. The areas cover cereals, edible protein, fish, pest and vector control, tropical hardwoods and fibres, groundwater, desalination, arid lands, natural disaster warning systems, indigenous building and construction materials, industrial research and design, the control of human fertility, and the tropical disease schistosomiasis.

In discussing the true dimensions of this problem, the UN Industrial and Development Organization (UNIDO) says that over 95 per cent of the world's research and development is carried out in the industrialized countries. Except for a very limited portion, this research is meant primarily for application in the developed countries. It has therefore limited relevance to the needs of the developing nations.

On the other hand, UNIDO says, the small amount of research conducted in the "have-not" countries suffers from drawbacks such as inadequate financial support for commercialization, and the fact that it is not always addressed to problems with a solution that would benefit the majority of the population.

UNIDO reports that the industrial research now going on in the world for the most part is not directly addressed to the major problems of developing countries, and in particular to their rural areas. Since much of the needed technology must therefore be imported from the advanced countries, the resultant technological dependence not only carries the seeds of its own perpetuation but also has the potential to distort the pattern of development of the economically neglected countries.

The technology gap between the "haves" and the "have-nots" is best illustrated by a picture of a peasant behind a buffalo dragging a wooden plow, as a supersonic jet flies overhead.

Statistically, the "have-nots" are responsible for only one per cent of the world's original technological innovations. Most of those countries are still in the stage of the first industrial revolution.

The Vienna conference should help start turning things around. It is designed to bring science and technology to bear on the development process.

This entails a serious re-examination of the existing priorities in scientific research. The end product of that process should be a concept of the universality of scientific and technological progress.

Such a development in turn is viewed as an essential element in the movement towards the redistribution of power, knowledge and wealth. This also happens to be the premise of the new world economic order as collectively seen by the developing countries, but not by countries which would be called upon to put it into operation through major initial economic sacrifices laced with bottomless political dangers.

The slowly emerging strategy

behind arguments of the "have-not" countries is that the finite nature of the planet's resources will soon constitute a limiting factor to man's options in life. Science must therefore devise ways for generating and sustaining systems consistent with the finite earth concept, the theory goes.

Translated into economic facts of life, this means that economic planners had better start worrying about depletion of raw materials through enormous increases in production, which is partly caused by the galloping population explosion. But it also means that science must divert some of its attention from laser beams and neutron bombs and think of do-it-yourself technologies for people living in primitive circumstances. United Nations research has established the fact that technology conceived for North American or West European needs can in fact be detrimental to the Third World by replacing its raw materials with synthetic products.

The unanswered question is how to convince private corporations bearing the brunt of research costs in the West to concentrate on technological tasks which are both costly and unproductive as far as their existing markets are concerned. When the "have-not" countries speak of necessary "political will" to re-orient the directions of science, they reduce the argument to their own relatively simple political experience with the mechanics of democracy in the West.

Against this background, fears of exaggerated expectations from the Vienna conference appear justified. There is a recognized risk of starting a great ferment of ideas without much hope for a practical follow-up. At stake in Vienna is not only advance of the "have-nots" but also the credibility of the United Nations and its role in Third World development.

DD

Jeff Endrst is a journalist based at the United Nations in New York who specializes in international issues and Third World development.

THE DISARMAMENT- DEVELOPMENT LINK

by Jeff Endrst

Albert Einstein warned in 1946 that the release of atom power has changed everything "except our way of thinking."

The current special United Nations General Assembly on Disarmament is designed to provoke a new way of thinking on issues of peace and international security. In an era of multiple atomic overkill, the goal is to apply the "less is more" slogan, currently popular among ecologists, to military strategy and survival politics.

The economic consequences of disarmament are also on the assembly's agenda. Once there is serious talk about swords to be beaten into ploughshares, the collective thinking of the international community automatically turns to the prospect of disarmament dividends for development.

The connection has long been recognized as valid. Its value to the needs and hopes of the Third World countries remains a subject of serious controversy, however.

According to the International Peace Research Institute in Stockholm, the world is now spending almost \$1 million a minute on arms. This is 20 times more than the industrial countries spend to help poorer nations to survive.

But there is also mounting evidence that some of the poorest countries now spend as much for military activities as they spend on agricultural investment. Others argue that developing nations which now misuse economic aid or follow faulty development strategies, might still be committing the same mistakes, only with larger sums flowing from disarmament savings.

Despite the obvious linkage, therefore, it has generally been recognized that disarmament is the primary, and development

only a residual, issue before the assembly.

The proposition the assembly faces, as the U.S. humorist Bennett Cerf once said, is "the atomic age is here to stay, but are we?"

To begin answering this question, one has to try to imagine the impossible: how to conjure up the explosion of 1.3 million Hiroshima-type bombs? That is what experts estimate is the blasting power of all U.S. and Soviet strategic nuclear warheads. And that does not even include the not-so-negligible atomic potential of Britain, France and China. The proposition does not as yet include the controversial neutron bomb which, technically, could kill more people but destroy less property.

It is a statistical fact that worldwide military expenditures now run at \$400 billion a year. In contrast, the campaign to eradicate malaria would amount to the cost of military spending for half a day. But it is floundering for lack of funds.

There are almost as many soldiers in the world as there are teachers. Some 60 million people, in and out of uniform, are believed to be engaged in military-related occupations. A quarter of all scientists are working on military projects. Yet only 2 per cent of all research and development money is beneficial to the "have-not" countries.

This is not to say that disarmament debates and efforts for the past 30 years have been entirely fruitless. Existing treaties cover non-proliferation of nuclear weapons; a partial ban on nuclear weapons tests; a ban on nuclear weapons on the ocean floor, in outer space and on the moon and stars; as well as a convention banning the use of environmental modification for military purposes.

But all these, in the context of a potential holocaust, are only partial measures which must be viewed as only a "second best." They have had no discernible impact on the on-going technological improvement of new and as yet uncontrolled weapons systems. It is feared that new technologies open the way to new political and military doctrines. They could in turn make it seem rational to use weapons based on such technologies.

Among the experts, this is known as "psychological escalation." The danger is that in this

"game of war," which has its own inexorable logic, man possesses the means of destroying all life on earth and "the mad logic to justify it," as an Indian disarmament expert recently said.

But the idea that disarmament would help begin to solve mankind's concern with the North-South development gap is an added incentive at the current assembly session. The UN remains obsessed with the proposition that the manpower, money and material currently eaten up by the arms race could and should be used for economic and social development of the needy.

But is the development connection to disarmament real or contrived?

There seems to be much

hopeful guessing and little conclusive evidence. There are just suppositions.

The UN claims that just a 5 per cent shift of the current arms spending to development would bring up the collective level of foreign aid by the industrialized countries to 0.7 per cent of their GNP.

The Nobel-prize-winning New York University economist, Wassily Leontief, has looked into the effect on North-South income gap through a reduction in military spending. He comes to the conclusion that the gap could be significantly cut by the year 2,000 on condition that there would be full employment in the "haves," and sustained

growth in the "have-not" countries.

But Columbia University political scientist Emile Benoit came up with another study. It shows that developing nations with high defense burdens tend to enjoy higher growth rates.

There are experts who point to the post-Second World War experience of the United States when demand for consumer goods fueled a record-making economic boom. But others point out that no such "peace dividend" resulted from the end of the Vietnam war.

It is generally agreed that in a post-disarmament era, resources would have to be juggled within

The optimum hope in this respect is a UN-sponsored attempt to establish a uniform system for reporting military budgets. But even here, it is much easier for countries to advocate a cut in military budgets than to agree to conditions which would determine actual defense spendings.

For all these reasons, the proposals before the special Assembly on Disarmament on the "development connection" are rather modest. They ask UN Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim to initiate an expert study on the disarmament-development tie. An interim report would go before the regular fall assembly session. The final expert results would be submitted

and between existing industries. Demobilized armies and depressed armament industries would have to retrain their personnel to fit into peacetime economies. In the current sluggish world economy, bordering on another recession, that is not an easy task.

In addition, some Western diplomats at the UN have detected a growing lack of enthusiasm among the Third World countries for schemes which depend on savings from disarmament rather than a lucrative-looking "new world economic order."

to the 1980 assembly, or to a follow-up special Disarmament session, should there be one.

But the results of the study might be considered premature, if not Utopian. As long as there is no tangible disarmament among the nuclear powers, one diplomatic observer said, there is "little sense in talking about the conversion and re-deployment of resources released for development through future disarmament measures." **DD**

Jeff Endrst is a journalist based at the United Nations in New York who specializes in international issues and Third World development.

CIDA president appears before parliamentary committee

An assessment of Canada's foreign aid program and plans for its future direction emerged from the recent hearings of the House of Commons Standing Committee on External Affairs and National Defence.

In two appearances before the 30-member committee composed of members of Parliament from all political parties, CIDA president Michel Dupuy answered questions on such topics as aid effectiveness, multi-lateral and bilateral disbursements, program priorities and tied aid.

Mr. Dupuy also reported on several of the major activities within CIDA to improve the effective functioning of the agency. These include what he described as in-house policy reviews "designed to assess the kinds of problems which are likely to confront the community of donors and the agency in the 1980s."

He said this review process includes continuing assessments of all multilateral institutions to which Canada contributes, with a view to evaluating their efficiency, effectiveness, and the relationship of Canadian interests to the programs of these institutions. He said about 70 international institutions now receive CIDA funds.

Mr. Dupuy also reported that a food aid review within the agency is nearing completion and a Food Aid Unit has been created. It will have the task of ensuring a co-ordinated approach to food aid disbursements.

Mr. Dupuy noted the growing interest of provincial governments in the CIDA program, particularly in VADA—the Voluntary Agricultural Development Aid program—which was an experimental program until last year. He said the program "is beginning to take off and holds promise of significant enlargements." (DD May 1978, p. 8).

CIDA Opposition critic Douglas Roche (PC—Edmonton

Strathcona) was the first of several committee members to praise Mr. Dupuy for his improvement of CIDA's image through "the close attention he has paid to financial accountability within the organization," during his first year as agency president.

Mr. Roche, however, raised the issue of "aid effectiveness" and asked whether Canadian aid is getting through to the poorest people.

He also said CIDA does not seem to be moving away from "tied aid" and charged that CIDA "is increasingly being used by the government as an agency to export Canadian products, thus distorting the process of development."

In response, Mr. Dupuy assured the committee that the purpose of the aid program has not changed and the shape of the program in the course of the past five years has been shifting in emphasis from the higher forms of development to the more fundamental forms of development.

He said various ways have been found to express this, including aid to the poorest countries and aid to the poorest people in these countries.

Mr. Dupuy assured the committee that evaluating aid effectiveness has been improved within CIDA by the creation of the Evaluation Division, which has been developing criteria, systems, and methodology to evaluate several projects.

He said these newly-developed criteria are now being tested on some integrated rural development and fisheries projects.

In defence of CIDA's support for a number of high-technology, capital-intensive projects, Mr. Dupuy said that representatives from developing countries "have repeatedly told us what they want is not aid but a mature economic relationship."

"I do not think we should feel apologetic in responding to what they seek. I would be, indeed, very distressed if this responsiveness and this largely disinterested character of Canadian aid is perceived for what it is not."

On the question of "tied aid" Mr. Dupuy assured the parlia-

mentarians that it related to the best, most effective utilization of the taxpayers' money and is not being used to subsidize ailing Canadian industries, as some CIDA critics have asserted.

He also said that CIDA, as a Canadian program, has a first priority to look at the resources Canada can make available and to this end a new Resources Branch within CIDA has recently been created that will "let us know to a much greater extent than we have in the past what is available in Canada to meet requests from developing countries for Canadian assistance."

The CIDA president pointed out that the recent trend toward increasing CIDA's assistance through multilateral agencies to more than 35 per cent has also increased the tendency towards "untying" aid.

He also pointed out that CIDA's growing non-governmental organizations program is totally untied. He went on to explain the question of "tied aid" in the bilateral — country-to-country — context.

He said some projects may be totally tied and others totally untied, and the flexibility in the use of the untying authority is very important in using the Canadian dollar available to aid.

Mr. Dupuy also explained CIDA's industrial co-operation policy in response to a question by Gilbert Parent, (L—St. Catharines).

He said "the technology, the knowledge, the experience, and the skills needed to assist a developing country are not within the government bureaucracy. They are in Canadian business. So industrial co-operation must involve the Canadian private sector."

Another aspect of the Canadian business sector's involvement in the aid program was raised by Mr. Dupuy when he said "Canadian firms, which are highly competitive because they compete commercially in a number of markets are debarred from entering the business of aid procurement because they are subsidiaries of foreign corporations. That, I think, is something we must think about."

In response to another question, he explained that Canada's official development assistance

(ODA) is increasing toward the goal of 0.7 per cent of gross national product from a current level of about 0.5 per cent. This is because the government has approved the growth of the CIDA budget in order to keep pace with inflation.

In response to a question by Lloyd Crouse (PC—South Shore) about CIDA's policy on fisheries, Mr. Dupuy told the committee that CIDA's approach to fisheries is part of its agricultural development policy to meet local food requirements and provide employment.

He also assured committee members that the fisheries resources CIDA is helping foster in developing countries are not going to create major disruptions on international markets or be in any way detrimental to the interests of the Canadian fishing industry.

In response to a question by Bruce Halliday (PC—Oxford) on CIDA's policy on population programs, Mr. Dupuy said this is a sector which the Canadian program has entered rather late but this does not mean activity in this area will not increase in future.

The question on population arose because several members of Parliament including Dr. Halliday are members of an international group of parliamentarians concerned with population and development issues and had attended a briefing at CIDA headquarters on population. (DD, May 1978, p. 10).

In response to a question on how CIDA determines its aid priorities, Mr. Dupuy explained that the first issue to be settled when dealing with a potential aid program is how much should be allotted for bilateral aid, how much for multilateral institutions, and how much for non-governmental organizations. Allocation of funds is made by Cabinet.

Mr. Dupuy concluded his remarks by saying that he was unable to say what sectors will receive the highest priorities because "we do not at the present time have an evaluation system in CIDA to determine what would be the ideal balance between the various sectors in which we are involved."

He said that this is largely a reflection of CIDA's responsive character to requests from developing countries for Canadian assistance in whatever area they need it most. **DD**

SEMINAR ON THE WORLD'S ENERGY NEEDS

"PETROLEUM AND BEYOND"



by Jeff Carruthers

A background seminar on the energy situation and its impact on both the developed and the Third World, co-sponsored by the Canadian International Development Agency and the School of Journalism at the University of Western Ontario, brought together 24 Canadian and one U.S. journalist with 10 of the world's energy experts.

The objective of the three-day seminar in London, Ontario at the end of March entitled "Encounter: 78—Petroleum and Beyond" was to provide an opportunity for the journalists and broadcasters to get first-hand information on the financing, exploration, production and distribution of the world's energy resources from those who know most about them.

Seminar chairman Varindra Tarzie Vittachi, a United Nations information officer and a former journalist, started the proceed-

ings with the observation that the problem facing journalists is how to make the invisible visible and how to make something that hasn't happened into news. The comment set the stage for a think-fest amongst the journalists and participants later in the day.

Donald Hart, the U.S. state department official in charge of petroleum producing country affairs in the office of fuels and energy, said the United States believes that the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) price increases are having an extremely harmful effect on the global economy. He later added that the OPEC nations were admittedly moving to partly offset the inexcusable low oil prices of the 1950s.

In the U.S. context, the year 1970 was important in that during that year, the drawdown in oil reserves worldwide exceeded the additions of new

resources. A few years later, the deterioration of oil supply situations in two major traditional suppliers to the U.S.—Venezuela and Canada—worsened matters.

He stressed that the public must realize that we are in the middle of a transitional phase: in the short-term, little can be done. However, in the long-term, much must be done to improve the oil supply-demand situation and to develop substitute energy forms where possible.

Mr. Hart said the multinational oil companies are much maligned: Western countries have to rely on the oil companies to assess the demand and get the goods to market. If the system doesn't work, society falls apart.

The producing countries have given qualified commitments to meet "essential needs;" however, the major issue is whether

there will be enough time for a painless transition.

The developing countries, Mr. Hart suggested, tend not to be major oil users; in fact, many key oil producers are developing nations. The U.S., Mr. Hart said, thinks there is a major role that private industry can play in arranging exploration and development efforts in developing countries. And it is heartening to see the international banks beginning to recognize this role by fostering financing of exploration and development in developing countries.

In the area of alternative energy development, there is a danger, Mr. Hart said, that too much will be attempted at once. Interestingly enough, there is growing evidence that energy conservation will play a greater role than previously thought possible. For example, some major oil companies now

forecast that gasoline demand in the U.S. will peak in 1982 and thereafter decline—with similar trends elsewhere.

Another underlying belief is that renewed growth is essential to provide the capital to enable the transition to take place. In this regard, it is important to recognize that energy conservation doesn't automatically mean self-denial and no growth, but that it can also mean increased energy efficiency combined with economic growth.

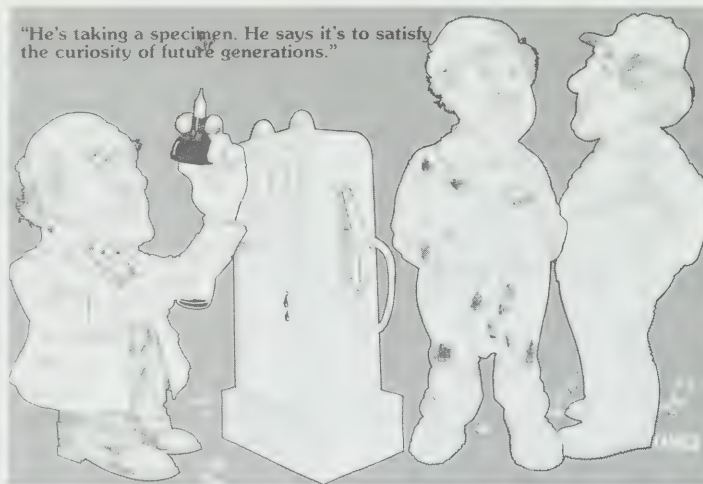
Joseph Barnea, a senior fellow with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and a program speaker, complained about how U.S. price controls on energy supplies were restricting development of new, higher-cost alternate supplies of oil, gas and coal. He maintained throughout the seminar that the U.S., by refusing to move its oil prices to world levels, was not

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developing huge energy resources within its borders. He added that many promising offshore areas for oil and gas exploration throughout the world were caught up in boundary disputes.

J.R. Bolton, University of Western Ontario chemistry professor and another participant, cautioned that the massive coal development envisioned by the U.S. could create major environmental problems. Mr. Hart, responding to a call for more emphasis on solar, predicted that solar would be only "barely significant" as an energy source in 10 years.

The next speaker, James Hopkins of the International Energy Agency (IEA) in Paris, warned that unless countries change their ways in energy, we are all heading for serious trouble. The IEA is responsible for ensuring that consuming nations don't get caught short



by another Arab oil embargo or by the longer-term prospect of excess demand for a dwindling oil resource worldwide.

Mr. Hopkins, like Mr. Hart, believes there isn't much time to adjust, adding that if 1977 trends continue there will be a serious oil supply-demand imbalance by the mid-1980s. This assumes a 4 per cent growth in the economies of the major industrialized countries—something that results from the political assumption by IEA countries that low economic growth is just not acceptable to the bulk of people (that is, the spectre of widespread unemployment).

As OPEC represents the only readily available and expandable source of energy today and since many of the OPEC nations literally cannot absorb substantially-increased revenues from selling more oil, there is a real near-term problem in matching increased demand and realistically available world supplies in the short-term. In addition to the concerns about the higher revenues, some OPEC countries need to prolong the life of their oil resources in order to keep the development programs going, Mr. Hopkins suggested.

Interestingly enough, studies indicate that if one assumes a slower economic growth, the slower pace also slows down the adjustment to more energy-efficient technologies.

Hopkins argued that, to be safe, policies have to be based on worst-case scenarios. The current flat demand for OPEC

oil gives the developed nations perhaps six to 10 years to adjust. For perspective, to meet the incremental growth in oil demand in 1977 alone would require the finding of a North Slope or half a North Sea oil field, Mr. Hopkins said.

There's no easy solution. And while coal offers an attractive medium-term solution for some countries, other energy sources such as nuclear and gas will be important too.

Modern economies need "available energy" and if the richer, more developed countries are suffering economically from the lack of energy supplies, where does that leave the poorer countries—or the exporting countries and industries, for that matter?

Mr. Hopkins also said there is an urgent need to reduce the conflicts between environmental concerns and energy development because the "distressing stalemate between the two" is blocking progress in each field.

He also doesn't see any alternative to a major reliance on nuclear power.

As for the developing countries, an important question: are they ready to provide the appropriate economic climate to encourage local energy investment by others?

During the discussion period, Mr. Vittachi identified a conflict between energy conservation, energy independence and energy interdependence on the world scene and within countries. Mr. Barnea noted that the non-OPEC countries were growing in number and in terms

of available production. He said that we shouldn't worry about oil production as much as worry that oil prices will remain high enough to keep up the necessary high level of energy production.

Mr. Hopkins admitted that he sees physical and financial limitations on the increased use of coal. He also noted that developing countries are in a worse situation, because of global supply problems. They will continue to have to be more efficient in their energy use rather than relying on increased aid from others.

The point was also made during discussion that many developing countries increasingly cannot afford higher and higher oil prices. The question as to what can be done remained unanswered.

John Winger, vice-president of the energy economic division of the Chase Manhattan Bank, presented a slide presentation

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on the financing problems facing the United States in meeting its growing energy needs. One of the energy problems, he suggested, is relying too heavily on energy conservation. There is a powerful economic incentive, he asserted, to produce new technological energy-consuming equipment to increase the productivity of people. If the economy at the same time doesn't expand, people are thrown out of work; and to keep the economy expanding, more energy must be found and consumed. If one keeps the gross national product growing, the GNP per employee also increases. And it comes down to a management problem—of shifting people around as employment needs change.

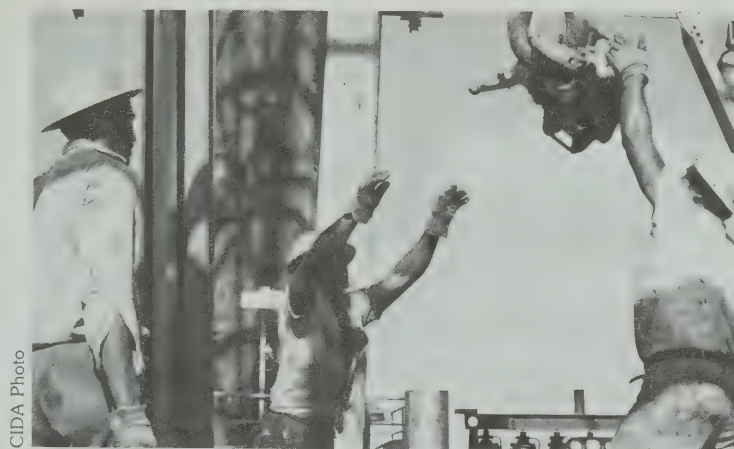
A "no-growth" scenario due to the lack of energy could result in serious unemployment increasing from about 12 million

in the United States, Europe and Japan to perhaps 50 million, he said. He suggested that to allow an economic growth slowdown in the United States would merely allow increased use of energy elsewhere.

Mr. Winger identified the root cause of inflation as governments, not oil companies. He noted that most of the oil price increases in recent years went into government pockets. He also said that there is no indication that higher prices on alcohol and cigarettes discouraged use of these commodities, so why should oil be any different?

He also maintained that the basis of economic activity is the fulfillment of "wants," not "needs." The solution is a redistribution of financial resources and increased efficiency of energy use.

Ragaei El Mallakh, professor of economics at the Inter-



CIDA Photo
Developing countries which have large energy reserves are often dependent on western technology to exploit them.

ciates Inc., provided a better insight into the Arab attitudes than did the previous speaker.

He said the Arab-Israeli stalemate is the major obstacle to stable oil supply. If there is another Arab oil embargo, it will be much more sophisticated and selective than the one in 1973. A great deal more economic dislocation could stem from another embargo, he warned.

He said that anti-Semitism is lurking just below the surface in the United States and could surface if the Israelis begin another war or trigger another oil embargo that results in economic hardships for the U.S.

And Saudi Arabia, which is building huge petrochemical plants with its oil riches, may soon require buyers to buy petrochemical products if they want crude oil—a seller's market with a twist (especially with Alberta placing so much of its future hopes on selling petrochemicals into the United States).

Communist countries can also be expected to compete more with Western nations for OPEC oil in the near future.

On the question of the next embargo, Mr. Hopkins quarreled with Mr. Malone's contention that the International Energy Agency wouldn't work well in time of crisis; he also said that some Arab members of OPEC cannot withstand a long embargo, which further weakens OPEC's already tenuous grip on world oil supplies.

While the oil companies did a remarkable job during the 1973 oil embargo, Mr. Malone doesn't think the oil companies will be able to provide a repeat performance; the relationship between the oil companies and the oil producing countries has changed drastically since then. He also suggested that in the event of another oil embargo, the West Germans might be the first to break the unified front against the Arabs, in order to keep German trade going.

O.J.C. Runnalls, senior adviser on uranium and nuclear energy for Canada's federal energy department, complained that the "Indian syndrome"—the Canadian fears about contributing to nuclear proliferation, in the wake of the Indian nuclear explosion—probably prevented Canada from selling Candu reactors to Iran, among others; Canada was demanding tougher nuclear safeguards with all customers while Iran thought the existing bilateral safeguard agreement was already too tough.

Since that time, Iran has become worried about its heavy dependence on African supplies of uranium for its expanding nuclear power program, and has been looking seriously towards Canada as a possible source of supply in the future. Perhaps, Mr. Runnalls suggested, Canada should have a unique policy whereby the country will guarantee uranium supply for buyers of Candu reactors. The Iranians are becoming increasingly concerned about the high cost of

buying nuclear and other technologies from other countries.

Mr. Runnalls noted that lead times are becoming a major problem in nuclear developments around the world: whereas the lead time for a nuclear reactor in Canada is still only seven years, in the United States it is now 12½ years. He also commented on Canada's various energy options, including the thorium cycle which would recycle material now thrown away in uranium tailings. He observed that uranium exploration by companies from mostly foreign countries has boomed in Canada recently.

James Lane, a special consultant with the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) in Vienna, noted that indications in the early 1970s that medium-sized nuclear plants would be economical power sources in the more developed

"The developing countries . . . tend not to be major oil users"

national Research Centre for Energy and Economic Development at Boulder, Colo., stated that Canada will be self-sufficient in energy by the 1990s (at odds with even the government's latest policy hopes!); that there will be more trade in technologies; and that Mexico and Canada will have a moderating influence on the United States.

OPEC, he asserted, is more dependent on oil than we are. The three main groups of countries—OPEC, developed and developing countries—must all conserve energy and co-operate in a smooth transition to an oil-less economy. OPEC, he added, is not a strong organization; if it disappeared tomorrow, the effect would be negligible. He termed the practice of blaming everything on OPEC as a form of scapegoatism.

Joseph Malone, president of Middle East Research Asso-

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of the developing countries have turned out to be false. What the original studies failed to predict was the substantial cost increases experienced in recent years, due in part to environmental concerns and inflation.

U.S.-style light water reactors that had been costed in 1973 at about \$200 per kilowatt (for 600 megawatt units, or about the size now being built in Canada) had jumped to \$660 per kilowatt by 1975 and \$1,240 per kilowatt by the end of 1977. The nuclear fuel cycle costs had jumped from an estimated 3.4 mills per kilowatt-hour in 1975 to 7.3 mills per kilowatt-hour at the end of 1977.

Mr. Lane, who was involved in the original optimistic study in 1973 of the nuclear power potential for such countries as Argentina, Bangladesh, Chile, Egypt, Greece, Jamaica, Korea,

Mexico, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Turkey and Yugoslavia, doesn't now think that nuclear costs will come down again.

A comparison of generating operating costs between nuclear and oil-fired stations in these types of developing countries showed the turnaround: in 1975, nuclear had a slight edge at 16.8 mills per kilowatt-hour for a 600 megawatt plant compared to 22.6 mills for a comparably-sized oil-fired station. However, by 1977, nuclear was at 31.3 mills and oil-fired was at 31.7 mills. No longer was there the economic incentive to put up the initially-higher capital investment for nuclear.

Mr. Lane also noted that the limited size of electrical grids in such countries prevents the use of more cost-effective nuclear stations larger than 600 megawatts.

Yet those developing countries with a nuclear program will

... many developing countries increasingly cannot afford higher and higher oil prices

be able to save 300 million barrels of oil a year; and this saving alone of a resource that is becoming increasingly scarce as well as more expensive will probably result in nuclear programs in 30 to 35 of the developing countries by the turn of the century.

However a major problem faced by developing countries in adopting nuclear power is the shortage of skilled manpower for project planning and research.

Mr. Lane, one of the most interesting speakers, presented another side of the developing country energy problem: most developing countries want nuclear power for status reasons. For example, Mr. Lane said that Venezuela had asked the IAEA to do an energy study; when Mr. Lane told the Venezuelans that hydroelectric development could meet their needs until 1995, they didn't like to

"You can never tell—the energy crisis may be just around the corner."



hear that. Many countries just don't like to be told they don't need nuclear power. Another country, Panama, wanted a nuclear study undertaken immediately even though it doesn't need nuclear until the year 2000.

James Howe, project director for the energy team of the Overseas Development Council in Washington, noted that the more than 2 billion inhabitants of "rural-urban slums" who don't now use electrical energy are generally ignored in world energy projections. While they consume very little "commercial" energy, they represent half the people in the world. The World Bank pessimistically believes that only a quarter of these people will be reached by electrification programs by the turn of the century.

Mr. Howe, an avowed "developer," said that among "development people" there is a consensus that the new approach to development involves smaller, decentralized facilities. He noted for example, that China seems to depend heavily on mini-hydro turbines and dung-fuelled methane units for much of its energy in rural areas. However, very little is known about what the Chinese are really doing in this area.

He suggested that in addition to mini-hydro turbines and methane generators, wind power devices, photovoltaic cells (for transforming sunlight into electricity) and simple, flat-plate solar collectors (for capturing the sun's heat) offer opportunities for developing coun-

tries and rural areas. However, very little has been done on introducing such technologies systematically into communities and then observing how they work (or don't work). There is ample evidence that the way not to introduce such technologies is the way missionaries have gone about it: that is, design, build and erect machinery. The problem is that it inevitably breaks down after the missionaries leave.

Alfredo Del Valle, regional programs officer for the regional Latin America Bureau of the United Nations Development Program, questioned the general approach to transferring technology into any new area. He said his experience suggests that the main difficulties are not with transferring the technology, perhaps through aid programs, but with the way normal commercial channels are ignored. Without the commercialization, there never really is a technology transfer.

What is really needed first is a technological infrastructure (as well as an involved commercial infrastructure) within a country, geared to the needs of the country, before technology can be truly transferred. Developing countries find themselves in a vicious circle all too often: they find they cannot get business in a new technology to design, manage and build new projects because they lack experience; and the straight import of technology, along with all the support expertise, ensures that they never get the experience.

James R. Bolton, University of Western Ontario chemistry professor, and Robert K. Swartman, University of Western Ontario engineering professor, made a joint presentation on the state of the art and the potential of solar energy, with particular emphasis on the Canadian situation. They also complained about the general lack of government funding for alternative energy research in particular (especially when compared with nuclear research spending) and for scientific research generally.

The last speaker, R.B. Toombs, a senior adviser in energy policy co-ordination in the Canadian energy department, termed the alternate energies as the "pea-shooters," putting his personal (and probably his department's) bias in full public view. Mr. Toombs obtained wide press coverage for remarks he made about the possibility that the federal

OPEC, developed, and developing countries must all conserve energy and co-operate

government might introduce legislation to ration oil and gas supplies, if Canadians don't take the forecast of a tight energy supply situation in the 1980s seriously enough.

Although some of the journalists attending the seminar were specialists in energy reporting, most were not.

Despite the marked variation in backgrounds, the journalist participants seemed to agree that the seminar was informative, though many complained it attempted to cover too much ground in a too limited period of time. **DD**

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PERSPECTIVES ON THE GLOBAL ENERGY CRISIS

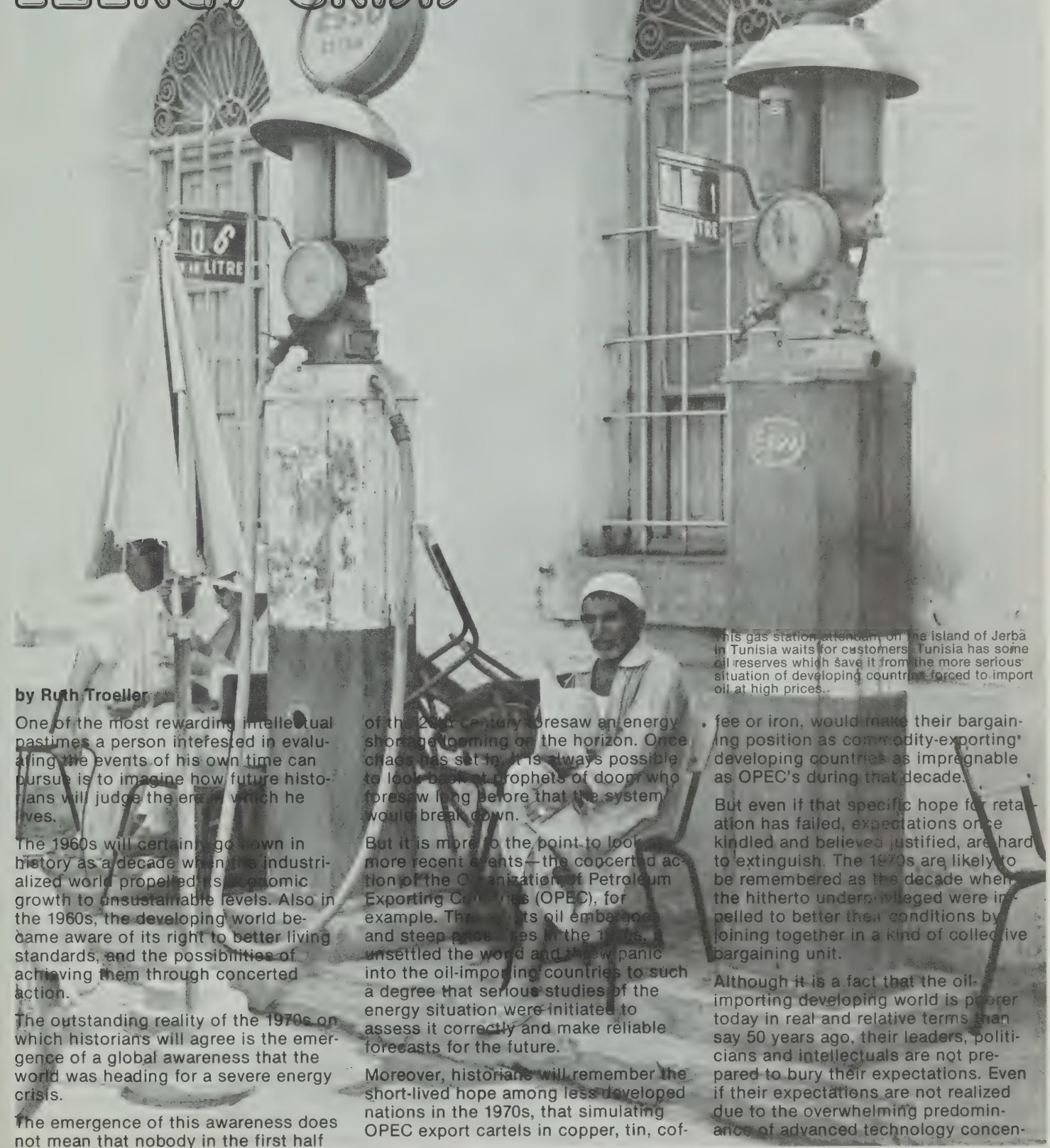


Photo: Jim White, CIDA

by Ruth Troeller

One of the most rewarding intellectual pastimes a person interested in evaluating the events of his own time can pursue is to imagine how future historians will judge the era in which he lives.

The 1960s will certainly go down in history as a decade when the industrialized world propelled its economic growth to unsustainable levels. Also in the 1960s, the developing world became aware of its right to better living standards, and the possibilities of achieving them through concerted action.

The outstanding reality of the 1970s on which historians will agree is the emergence of a global awareness that the world was heading for a severe energy crisis.

The emergence of this awareness does not mean that nobody in the first half

of the 20th century foresaw an energy shortage looming on the horizon. Once chaos has set in, it is always possible to look back at prophets of doom who foresaw long before that the system would break down.

But it is more to the point to look at more recent events—the concerted action of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), for example. Their oil embargoes and steep price rises in the 1970s unsettled the world and threw panic into the oil-importing countries to such a degree that serious studies of the energy situation were initiated to assess it correctly and make reliable forecasts for the future.

Moreover, historians will remember the short-lived hope among less developed nations in the 1970s, that simulating OPEC export cartels in copper, tin, cof-

fee or iron, would make their bargaining position as commodity-exporting developing countries as impregnable as OPEC's during that decade.

But even if that specific hope for retaliation has failed, expectations once kindled and believed justified, are hard to extinguish. The 1970s are likely to be remembered as the decade when the hitherto underprivileged were impelled to better their conditions by joining together in a kind of collective bargaining unit.

Although it is a fact that the oil-importing developing world is poorer today in real and relative terms than say 50 years ago, their leaders, politicians and intellectuals are not prepared to bury their expectations. Even if their expectations are not realized due to the overwhelming predominance of advanced technology concen-

trated in the North, these aspirations have altogether changed the dynamics of the world as we know it.

The shape of things for decades to come has been worked out in the 1970s. Indeed, a process not unlike the industrial revolution with all its hopes and frustrations, with a logic of its own and a course of events which neither politics nor chance movements could alter, has been initiated.

It will advance under its own impetus. A post-industrial world will emerge with unheard of levels of structural unemployment, a need for complete re-orientation in education, leisure and culture, and a new appreciation of the possibilities open to the vast populations of the less-developed world.

Revolutions may come and go, but the gap must be narrowed between those in possession of nonrenewable depleting assets (crude oil and gas in the ground), and those who have the technology to exploit and distribute oil and alternatives to oil.

Unless the new world order is understood fully and managed with political tact and a global outlook, a tug of war over petroleum will divide the world even further. The danger is that it may force an ultimate showdown over the issue, which could provide a foothold for the most extreme political factions on both sides.

A trend once begun is difficult to stop and the world's economists realize that the craving for ever-increasing rates of economic growth will not relent until the actual trend has spent itself.

Consequently, those responsible for economic policies consider, not surprisingly, that the desire for increased economic growth based on exploitation of nonrenewable energy resources poses a challenge. That challenge, the possibility that energy sources will dry up in the medium term, remains unabated. Economists may well be the spoilsports of many a glorious and romantic theory. They can rarely be accused of embellishing human desires.

However, the world at this moment is saturated with oil and the oil price is likely to decrease at least temporarily. This saturation puts into question the commercial viability of new and more costly exploration of oil, as well as a whole range of alternatives to oil. No doubt this situation is unlikely to last and can be traced back to speculation and mistaken forecasts.

At this moment, the tankers of the world lie idle in harbors filled to the brim with unwanted petroleum. At the same time, oil producers are cutting



Photo: Pamela Johnson, World Bank
A gas station in Liberia; the oil crisis created two distinct groups of developing countries — the oil-rich and the oil-poor.

their production drastically. This cut in production is not so much because of oil-conserving policies, but because of a sharp shortfall of effective demand due to an untimely and ill-conceived stockpiling of oil.

The stockpiling was meant to mitigate the rigors of a winter which turned out to be quite mild, and to forestall possible embargoes caused by a renewed Middle East conflict. Ironically, neither the renewed conflict nor a severe winter materialized.

The current abundance of oil must not be misconstrued as proof that the future is secure and a shortfall of sufficient energy sources improbable. Neither should we assume that the considerable investments made recently in industries to develop alternative energy sources will not yield their expected profits.

The simple art of forecasting future events today with yesterday's wisdom is obsolete and must be replaced by the kind of thinking which takes the future as its starting point. It must be aimed first at defining long-term objectives and subsequently at devising alternative means to achieve these ends.

Progress does not follow a straight path, and even God, according to a Portuguese saying, writes straight with curved lines. In any case, there are no straight lines in nature.

If alternative means are devised, political pressures from another region in the world and economic fluctuations, far from being disquieting disturbances in the direction to be pursued, will simply alter the tracing of the path by which they are to be achieved. Throughout history, and presumably in prehistoric times as well, the human brain always adjusted itself to new needs when they occurred.

Clearly, oil, by the beginning of the next century, will have to take a lesser place in the energy league. Thus a considerably greater percentage of renewable energy must be secured, such as solar power—which though not renewable in the strict sense of the word—must be considered inexhaustible in the foreseeable life span of planet earth. Alternatives such as solar energy must become a practical and secure reality if human society as we know it is to continue and humanity to develop to a more equitable and universally acceptable pattern.

Future historians will also recognize that towards the end of the 1970s a further more significant change occurred, not based on the petroleum glut and ephemeral events, but on the steadily swinging pendulum of historical necessity.

There will be a return to a power monopoly by the "North," that difficult-to-define conglomerate of nations which have advanced faster, both politically and economically, than the "South" (though the degree of development among the North's members varies considerably).

Indeed, not only do alternative energy sources depend overwhelmingly on the most sophisticated technology available, and most new oil discoveries depend on the latest inventions in advanced technology, but even the traditional oil and gas fields require increasingly higher technological expertise, especially where secondary and tertiary recovery methods are required.

Though it is a fact that the oil price is declining at present and that the shortage of oil that had been so insistently forecast has not developed (at least not as yet), the secular price trend is evolving towards a slow but steady increase both in absolute and relative terms. It only adds to the complexity of the situation, and shows the present, presumably temporary, abundance of oil as the last straw pushing the pendulum even more firmly in favor of the more technologically-advanced countries.

True, oil holds a quite specific place among all other commodities. Its unique position endows those countries in possession of it and in control of the production and distribution pattern, with a considerable economic and political ascendant. Consequently, it stands to reason that an export cartel composed of countries in possession of this commodity is at least in theory—and during the last six years in practice as well—capable of yielding an almost absolute sway over the economic future of the world.

This same fact, however, has encouraged a host of reliable studies which, for the first time, allow the calculation of the life span of global oil and gas deposits. These deposits have been evaluated according to differing depletion rates. The studies demonstrate conclusively the inevitability of an oil shortage by the beginning of the next century. This situation can only be considered as exceedingly complex and highly controversial.

It is by now commonplace to state that the years of cheap energy have gone and that in monetary terms the energy input will constitute a larger part of overall costs.

Yet life has to go on. Investments must be made and the foundation laid which will become the monetary and physical basis of tomorrow's power structure, and will distribute wealth and control by the beginning of the 21st century.

The situation might be described as follows: oil and gas exploration, having required a proportionately larger financial input in the economy and oil being in the process of running out, investment in oil and gas exploration, though vital, needs quick returns, since the life span during which it can be exploited is strictly limited.

On the other hand, the development of ever-more-sophisticated technology is a fact of life without which neither alternative energy sources nor the increasingly more complex recovery methods of oil can be achieved.

Since these alternative energy sources must be developed speedily to supplement and replace oil, they are only commercially viable if the oil price does not merely increase in absolute terms, but continues to be steeper than the rise in the general international price level. The investment climate throughout the world is insecure and will require increasingly the support and control of governments.

It stands to reason therefore, that the economically far-advanced countries are making their public sectors responsible for much of the investment in energy and for all negotiations with OPEC. This is the case especially since most member countries of OPEC have nationalized their oil industries and since OPEC governments, if not the organization itself, directly negotiate oil transactions.

Furthermore this shift of the decision-making process from the private to the public sector has been accompanied by a significant shift of effective demand from the consumer-goods to the producer-goods industry. Indeed large

funds formerly held in the form of savings by western owners are now being used by OPEC countries to import capital goods.

At the same time the recession, though not caused by the sharp increase in the price of petroleum and its derivatives, has nevertheless intensified the price increase considerably. Combined with the mobilisation of savings, the oil price increase has altogether reduced consumption.

Simultaneously the need for novel forms of energy production has stimulated investment in new and highly capital-intensive industries. This in turn has once again concentrated the ultimate control and ultimate economic power in the camp of those who hold the technological and scientific knowledge and who have the capital to transform this knowledge into products if and when they choose.

Unless the new world order is understood fully and managed with political tact and a global outlook, a tug of war over petroleum will divide the world even further.

This alone would suffice to explain the failure of the North-South dialogue to bring about concerted action on even a vague program of co-operation. This failure stems from an intransigence on both sides due to different interpretations of the same circumstances: a dialogue of the deaf where each faction believes it holds the key to the future, the one in the form of ownership of nonrenewable energy resources, and the other certain of the ownership of a less material asset, the knowledge to exploit energy resources.

So it appears that the world is once again separated into groups whose interests in no way coincide, though the feeling of the ultimate need to come together has grown as well. Indeed, by leaving "politics" out of the picture, the world, by the early 1980s, is likely to have resigned itself to the norm: the North holding the monopoly of power, both economically and politically; the oil-producing developing countries fighting to use their temporary position of dominance based on resources to consolidate their economic position; and the non-oil producing developing countries trying to affirm their place in the puzzle, by politically harassing those whose economic success and

material advance they are attempting to emulate.

At the same time, maybe for the first time in more than a century, the South has become conscious of its destiny based on the history, culture and specific outlook of each of its member countries.

Expectations for a rapid economic development, based on export cartels of raw materials other than oil, have been quickly disappointed. It became clear that while OPEC was able to hold the industrialized countries to ransom for a short period by placing embargoes on oil, not even OPEC could succeed in marking up the price of oil excessively without taking account of the ensuing consequences and the ultimate repercussions on their own economies.

Whether the swing of the pendulum back to a control of the world energy situation by the North after the events of the 1970s will bring greater recognition of the rights, needs and responsibilities of the non-oil-producing developing countries, cannot be appreciated in its full amplitude until a clearer pattern—political and economic and even cultural—has emerged in the South.

This clearer pattern may not become evident if another phenomenon which is a great danger in today's world occurs. That is the breaking of communications politically and economically by countries anywhere on the globe.

If a country were to become inward-looking in this way, a kind of "implosion" or "black hole" would occur. Outsiders could only obtain information about them by communicating with the surrounding region, which could do no more than say the implosion had occurred, without being able to be specific about it.

If individual developing countries, with thwarted expectations of economic growth through international co-operation, were to turn inward, clear political, economic and cultural patterns will be prevented from emerging in the South.

This is not to say that the same type of phenomenon might not occur in the North. After all, the world does not face evolution and violent change of the underprivileged alone. **DD**

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PROSHIKA

Proshika is the development project making the best use of public funds seen during a tour of Canadian aid projects, said member of Parliament Doug Roche (PC—Edmonton Strathcona) after visiting Asia.

It is a Bengali acronym representing a centre for human development.

It is also a fast-spreading self-help movement that is bringing change and new hope to thousands of people in Bangladesh (so far, more than 5,000 people involved in 400-plus community groups). It helps them in the first, difficult steps toward taking charge of their own lives.

Proshika is essentially a vocational training program, centred at Kottai (about 50 km from Dacca) and at nearby Comilla, staffed by an enthusiastic group of Bangladeshis (mostly in their late twenties), supported in their start-up efforts by the Canadian University Service Overseas, and assisted by CIDA funds (first from the Non-Governmental Organizations Division, then through the bilateral program).

Proshika helps individuals and groups who want to improve life in their rural communities. It offers practical courses in everything from duck-raising to public health, backed up by effective training in the communication and leadership skills needed by agents of change.

"The trainers acted in a very strange way," said one volunteer/trainee. "They involved all of us in the preparation of an outline of what we would like to discuss here that would help us in our future activities. My God, it came as a blow! It was so different . . . I now believe that I'm not an empty pitcher to be filled but that rather I have something solid in me . . . I learned that this ought to be true also for the so-called illiterate villagers . . . that the concerned people are the best people to analyse their problems and to find solutions."

This innovative effort will be described more fully in the summer issue of *Action*, CIDA's quarterly publication on NGO activities.



1 & 2

Stagnant ponds are excavated by the local people using simple hand tools made locally.

3

Excavated pools are filled with clean water and stocked with fish, which is an important and cheap source of food for the community. Fish culture is taught to the people by Proshika workers.



Photos: David Maltby

4

Proshika children.

Community members are able to set aside some of their earnings, which are deposited in a savings account on their behalf by a Proshika worker.

5

The women of the community have a small silk industry. They raise the worms, spin the silk thread and sell it to wholesalers in larger centres.

HOUSING NICARAGUA'S POOR: COVISAMA

by Louis Bérubé

"To think that I now have a little corner all to myself where I can die in peace."

These simple moving words were spoken by the head of a family to express his happiness as a member of COVISAMA (COoperativa de VIVIenda de SAn MARcos) a low-cost housing co-operative for low-income families in San Marcos, Nicaragua.

This newly formed co-operative which houses about 225 families already has an uncomplicated but fascinating history—that of perseverance and, at times, the heroic efforts of a fairly large group of people determined to escape the slums once and for all and build a home of their own.

Their efforts would have been in vain without adequate foreign assistance, provided mainly in the form of Canadian funding.

In October 1973, after several months of discussions during which people became aware of their miserable social condition, about 150 heads of families joined forces to establish a low-cost housing co-operative called COVISAMA and immediately began collecting the money needed to buy a parcel of land.

The fund was not growing fast enough through contributions by members alone, so festivals, bazaars and other fund-raising events were organized. The co-operative even bought national lottery tickets every week.

By May 1974, enough donations had been received for COVISAMA to buy its first parcel of land and pay cash for it. At the time of purchase the site was nothing more than dense jungle. But thanks to the voluntary efforts of the hard-working members and the graders loaned to the co-operative by the Nicaraguan ministry of transport, the jungle was transformed into a proper building lot that was ready to accommodate about 225 houses by April 1975.

Unfortunately, COVISAMA's coffers were nearly empty by this time. It was at this point that the Nicaraguan affiliate of Caritas (an international Catholic aid organization) became actively involved, providing the co-operative with a long-term, interest-free loan of 500,000 cordobas (\$72,000).



Houses sponsored by co-operative members when their houses were completed.

Construction progressed at a good pace, and by the second week in June of that year one house had been built and was already occupied. Six months later, 150 houses had been constructed and by March 1976 the number had risen to 200. Houses now have been built on all available lots.

The project did not end there, however. Faced with the crying need for adequate housing (there were 305 new members registered and a waiting list of 110 families), and encouraged by the success of their first venture, the administrators moved on to a second phase.

The Canadian Executive Service Overseas (CESO) provided a volunteer (myself), and work on the project began. Members made a valiant effort to raise sufficient capital and coffers were swelled by funding from Canadian co-operatives and CIDA. In May 1977, COVISAMA bought a larger parcel of land covering 36 acres at the bargain price of about 750,000 cordobas, (\$120,000). In the summer of 1977, the land—which like the first site was part of an old coffee plantation long since abandoned to the jungle—was cleared. Co-operative members—men, women and children—worked as hard as they had during the first phase and the Nicaraguan government again provided graders.

By the end of October, the site was ready for construction to begin. Some

green spaces had wisely been planned and land had been set aside for community buildings. Even so, there were still 305 lots on which to build houses and these were distributed without delay.

Until now, COVISAMA had been a great success. To what is this attributable? Throughout the world, a co-operative's success depends on three factors: commitment on the part of members, efficient administration and management, and adequate financial assistance when it is needed. How has COVISAMA fared on this basis?

The members became totally involved in the project after the initial discussion and motivation stage, during which they became aware of their miserable social condition and finally realized that a way out existed.

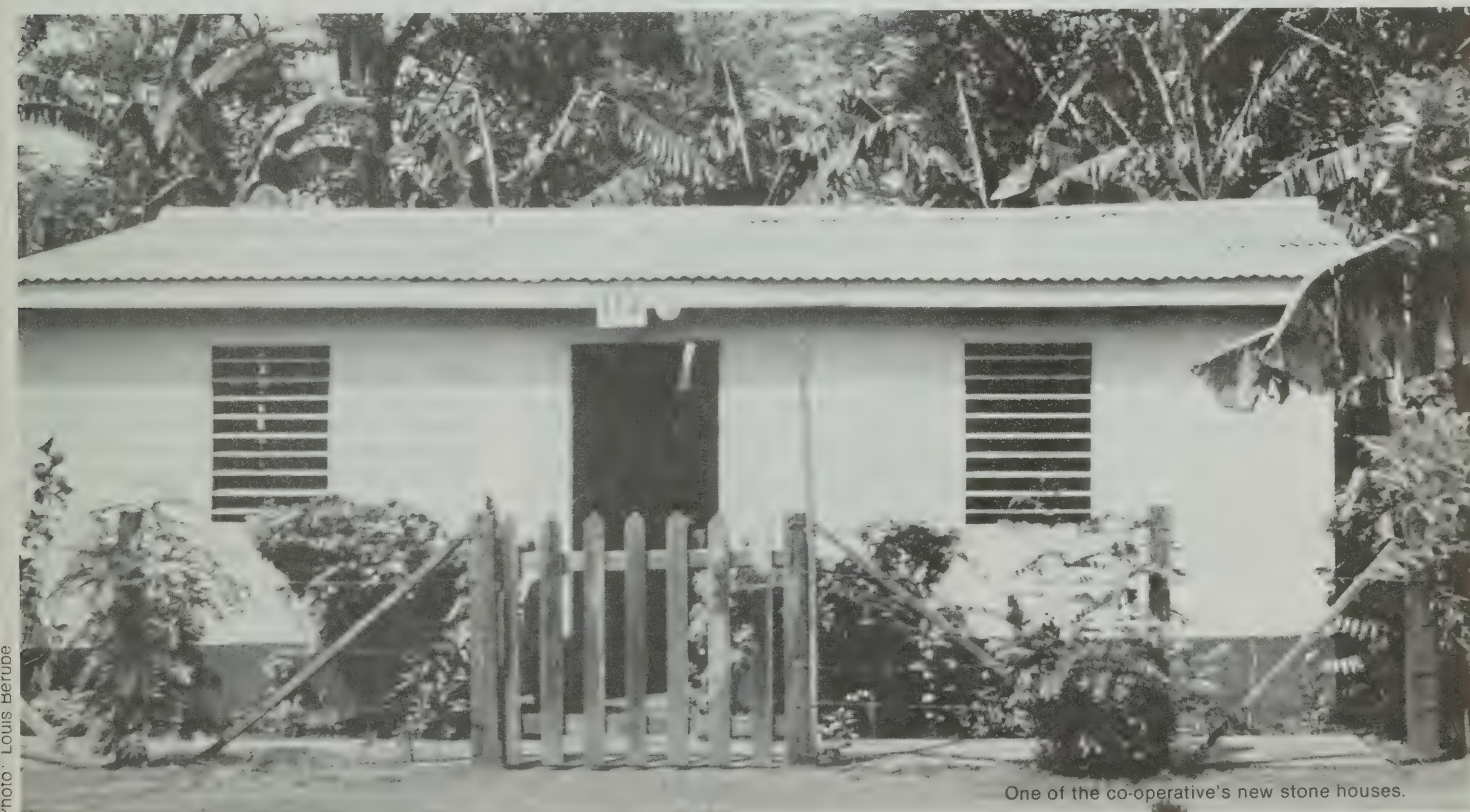
They expressed their commitment in three ways. First, despite their meagre incomes (monthly incomes range from \$35 to \$140), members contributed money every month toward the purchase of a parcel of land. During the first phase of the project, contributions totalled about 80,000 cordobas (\$11,500) and during the second phase about 90,000 cordobas (\$14,000). These amounts may seem insignificant by Canadian standards, but considering the fact that incomes are low in Nicaragua and members still had to pay rent, it was a heroic effort involving great hardship.

Secondly, members expressed their commitment by devoting their time to clearing the land and building houses. In order to conserve the community's meagre funds, the members—men, women and older children—accomplished most of the work themselves using saws, axes and machetes. They also installed water pipes and electrical wiring in the streets.

Finally, members showed their commitment through their honesty and punctuality in paying the mortgage each month. In San Marcos, there is periodic and seasonal unemployment and no unemployment insurance. When husbands were unemployed, wives sold candy they had made themselves to earn enough money for the monthly mortgage payments.

At the rate things are progressing, the mortgage debt will be paid off in less than six years. The head of one family has already paid off his mortgage. He accomplished this feat in less than two years. The manager said, "He sold his cow to pay off his mortgage faster!"

The members' commitment was all-embracing and effective. It was in matters of administrative ability and financing that the co-operative displayed certain weaknesses at first. This was only to be expected. In a co-operative where the illiteracy rate exceeded 50 per cent it was difficult to find qualified administrators to form a board of directors and a Nicaraguan



One of the co-operative's new stone houses.



Dense jungle was transformed into a housing site largely through the voluntary efforts of the members.



A young couple takes a break from the hard work of preparing building lots.

manager with enough business experience to take charge of the co-operative's affairs.

The same situation existed with respect to financing. The efforts made by members to contribute to COVISAMA's special fund were nothing short of heroic considering their low monthly incomes, but their donations proved to be painfully inadequate in relation to the amount required to finance the land and the houses.

Without foreign assistance, COVISAMA might have been nothing more than a beautiful dream instead of the vibrant, progressive co-operative it is today. This assistance was as generous and unselfish as it was diverse.

In addition to Canadian aid, financial contributions were made by Caritas-Nicaragua, the president of Nicaragua, the ministry of transport, and the Agency for International Development (US-AID), the United States equivalent of CIDA.

Canadian financial assistance was rather limited during the first phase of the project. Contributions came from only one small organization, the Rallye Tiers-Monde of Ste-Anne, Quebec, which gave \$5,000 dollars. Other smaller contributions were made by anonymous donors.

The Canadian contribution was larger during the second phase. In addition to its own funds, COVISAMA needed \$140,000 to purchase and develop the land, for the project costs would total \$154,000. Canada provided the entire amount. CIDA contributed half (\$77,000) while the Co-operative Development Foundation of the Co-operative Union of Canada and the Ste-Anne diocese co-operants' group each provided one quarter of the total (\$38,500).

The financing for both phases of COVISAMA has been in loan and grant form. The grant portion for the second phase has not only been arranged but has already been used to purchase land. A Canadian concern willing to provide the loan portion has not yet been found. However, Canada has not yet had its final word on the matter and it is my firm belief that in the not-too-distant future, voluntary or other agencies will take the matter in hand.

Canadian aid was not limited to financial assistance. It covered the entire field of technical assistance, beginning with the organization and then the administration of the co-operative. Two young Catholic priests from Quebec volunteered their services in these two areas of activity and have performed their duties competently and effectively.

A native Nicaraguan is now being trained to take over these duties. As far as the more difficult economic problems are concerned, CESO took charge of recruiting the economic adviser (myself) and of providing the co-operative with my services free of charge.

In the area of technical assistance and in addition to Canadian support, free legal aid was provided by Adelina Garcia, a Nicaraguan lawyer, who directed work on the legal incorporation of the co-operative and formulated its first statutes and regulations. The history of co-operative development in the Third World in general and of COVISAMA in particular confirms the fact that the success of a co-operative is closely related to the happy, harmonious union of three factors: commitment on the part of members, technical assistance and financial aid. **DD**

Louis Bérubé, at 80, is considered the "dean" of Canadian co-opérants, after working overseas as a technical assistant for much of his life. He is also a distinguished academic and graduate of Laval University, University of Washington and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

The Dean of Co-opérants

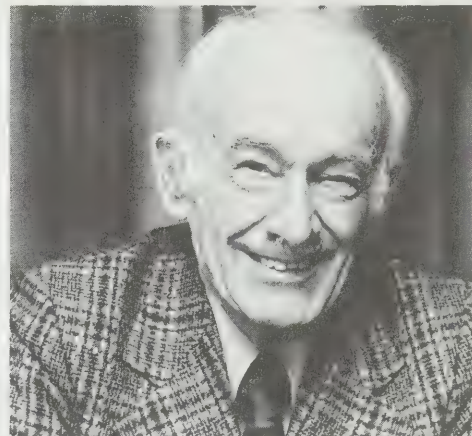


Photo: Andrew Bako

Louis Bérubé, still a tireless worker at 80, has spent more than 50 years helping the underprivileged in Canada and the Third World.

by Raymond Grenier

The dean of Canadian co-opérants (advisers and technical experts working in developing countries) is, at 80, still a tireless worker, an academic and a man of action. Louis Bérubé is one of those people whose concern for the fate of the underprivileged—whether in their own country or in the Third World—precludes retirement in any real sense of the word. He is not satisfied with merely protesting against the conditions of the poor; he feels compelled to do something about them.

He has just completed two missions to Nicaragua for the Canadian Executive Service Overseas (CESO) as an economic adviser on the development of a housing co-operative (see article on COVISAMA, p. 22).

More than 20 years ago, in 1956, he undertook his first technical co-operation mission for what was then called the International Economic and Technical Co-operation Division in the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce. This small unit was the predecessor of CIDA. At this moment, he is working on other technical assistance projects where he has been invited to participate.

Eight years ago, the University of Ottawa awarded Dr. Bérubé an honorary doctorate in social sciences in recognition of his achievements. It was, of course, a tribute to an outstanding Canadian co-opérant, and the International Co-operation Institute of the

University of Ottawa was closely associated with the tribute. But the honor was also in recognition of a long, full career which was taking shape in the field of economic and social development long before 1956.

When the Canadian government first asked him to provide technical assistance to the fishing industry in Cambodia (now Kampuchea), Dr. Bérubé had already been working since 1922 to improve the conditions of rural populations. In particular, he helped fishermen in the Gaspé region by developing co-operatives, and from 1938, by improving technical training for the fisherman.

He was a pioneer on a number of fronts. A graduate of Laval University in agriculture, he was the first scholarship holder from Quebec to be sent to the new College of Fisheries at the University of Washington. He then enrolled at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to study fisheries. He also studied the marketing of fish products, and he even managed to gain experience in a fish exporting company. He used this knowledge to establish the first refrigerated fish warehouse in the Gaspé.

One of the co-operatives he helped to establish, the Carleton fishermen's co-operative, celebrated its fiftieth anniversary in 1972 and is the oldest one of its kind on the North American continent. He was one of the founding members of the Pêcheurs-Unis du Québec, and chairman of the Federation of Canadian Fishermen's Co-operatives.

It is impossible to list all his accomplishments here. Louis Bérubé does not take up careers one after another; he combines several at once. His scientific background and extensive practical experience account for his ability to handle so many activities with success. But mainly it is because his ideas are usually ahead of his time.

In the past, some people have taken exception to his proposals. Since then, the soundness of his ideas has prompted people to become cautious in their reactions. He told some that co-operatives should not be confused with a charitable organization. He pointed out to others that the marketing of fresh and frozen as well as salted fish should be developed in the Gaspé region. And he indicated to others that training of fisheries specialists and technicians was a necessity.

In the last-mentioned case, success came in the form of a fisheries school at Ste-Anne-de-la-Pocatière, and Dr. Bérubé directed the study program at

the outset in 1938. There were many sceptics, but about 20 years later fisheries service officials from Burma and India visited the school which is affiliated with the University of Laval in Quebec. They were openly enthusiastic about it. By then, the school had already trained 400 graduates.

In 1948, in conjunction with his work at Ste-Anne-de-la-Pocatière, Dr. Bérubé established and became director of a technical fisheries school at Grande-Rivière.

When he met the Indian and Burmese delegation at Ste-Anne-de-la-Pocatière in 1957, he had already completed a technical assistance mission for Canada to Indochina under the Colombo Plan.

In 1958-1959 he worked once again as a Canadian co-opérant, this time in Ceylon (now called Sri Lanka). He also carried out activities in Malaysia from 1963 to 1966.

His duties in these Asian countries consisted of improving the conditions of fishermen, their ports, their fishing methods and the marketing of their products, just as he had done in Canada. He went on many other missions to countries as far away as Algeria and Peru, and his assignment with CIDA as special adviser from 1969 to 1972 did not prevent him from pursuing several different careers at the same time.

The will to keep things going through personal initiative and boldness comes naturally to this descendant of Damien Bérubé, who came to Canada in 1686. Louis Bérubé is the seventh of 12 children born to a farmer from St-Philippe-de-Méri in Kamouraska, an early settler in the Matapédia valley.

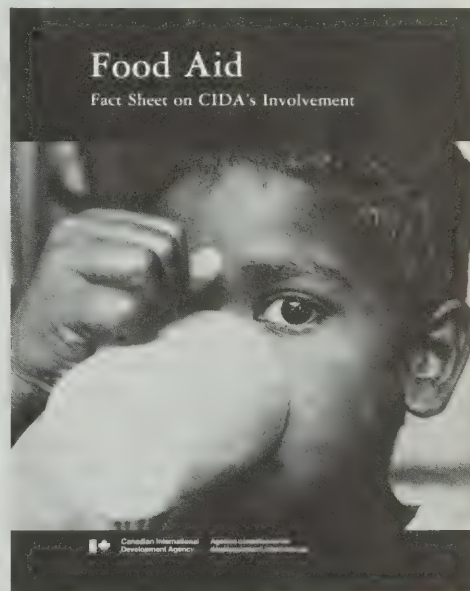
Even today, the mischievous, knowing smile in his eyes and on his lips hints of the perseverance that has driven him to perform effectively for so long in so many different places, whatever the obstacles. "As long as God needs men . . ." says Dr. Bérubé. Not only has he refused to retire, but he also hopes some of the projects he launched in the 1960s will be implemented in the underdeveloped regions of Canada as well as the Third World.

The prime objective of these projects is the establishment of government-owned companies automatically convertible into co-operatives for the protection of the poor. The detailed study of this system is contained in one of the approximately 150 documents he has written, many of which have been translated and published abroad. He made a gift of this particular study to Malaysia.

Dr. Bérubé says that he would like to help establish the first company of this type in Canada and present it as a gift to his native province. The formula makes it possible to offset at the start the problems of lack of funds and training for co-operatives. It reconciles the need for immediate action with the handicaps involved. According to Dr. Bérubé, it would resolve numerous problems of regional disparity in Canada.

At the sight of this man—not very tall, but straight and broad in the shoulders—and considering all he has accomplished in 80 years, few people would wager that this dream of his will not come true. Louis Bérubé the trout fisherman is still able to cast a fly so accurately that it will land on a spot the size of a coin at 15 metres . . . and not only that, he makes his own fishing flies. **DD**

Raymond Grenier is editor of *Directions du développement*, the French language version of *Development Directions*.



CIDA has just released a detailed fact sheet on its food aid program as one of a series of fact sheets on various sectors of CIDA activities. The fact sheets are available free of charge from:

Public Affairs
Division, CIDA,
200 rue Principale,
Hull, Quebec, Canada
K1A 0G4.

ENTEL PERU A TRANS-ANDEAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS LINK



by Brian Upton

A team of tough, machete-swinging Canadian engineers are blazing new trails through the jungles of Peru to build vital telecommunications links between the country's long Pacific Coast and the interior.

Expansion of Peru's phone system, ENTEL-Peru, is one of 20 CIDA-sponsored projects in that country, worth about \$40 million in all.

The team is locating sites for microwave towers to span the Andes. Paths have to be cut through dense underbrush, and the work is hot, the humidity is high and there are snakes, mosquitoes and ants to make it uncomfortable.

Forty per cent of Peru's 13.6 million people live in the semi-arid coastal area which is 10 to 100 miles wide. Despite the scarcity of rain, much of the industrial, commercial and agricultural activity is centred in this region which produces more than 50 per cent of the country's gross national product.



CIDA Photo

Loading the land vehicles deep in the jungle after reaching an area accessible only by riverboat.

The Andes Mountains, approximately 200 miles wide, occupy about 27 per cent of Peru's land area. They are the principal barrier to transportation and communications links between the coast and the interior, which has great potential for agricultural and forestry development.

The team, all employees of Bell Canada International (BCI), now under its third contract with CIDA in Peru, is led by John Tatlock of Montreal. Mr. Tatlock has been in Peru since the project began five years ago and despite being 59, he has the energy and drive of much younger men. Hang-gliding is one of his hobbies.

This, along with climbing mountains with 40 to 80 degree inclines loaded with a full pack, keeps him in shape and inspires the younger communications experts.

In an interview in the BCI office in Ottawa recently, Mr. Tatlock spoke about Peru, his work and his hobby.

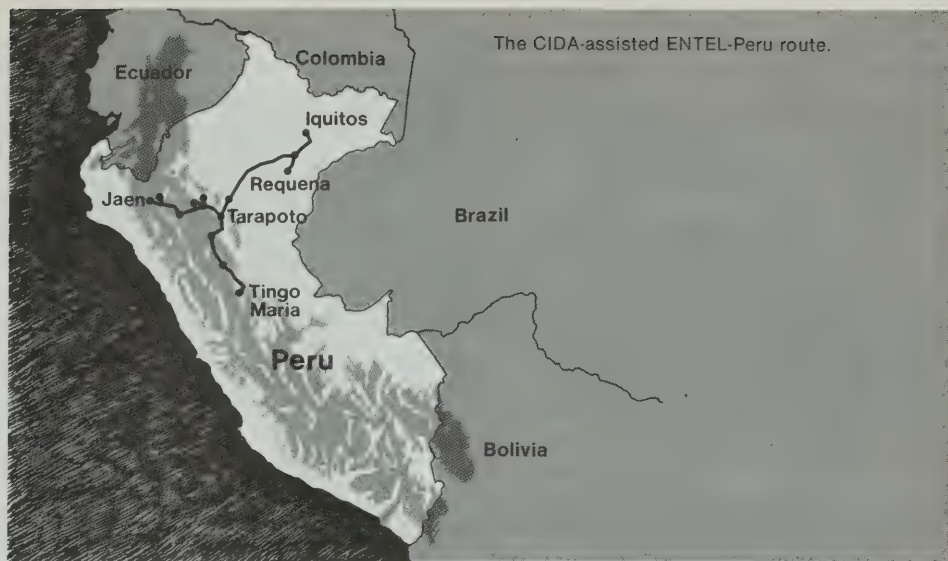
"I broke some bones in my right hand when I crash-landed on some rocks," he recalled with a grin. "Hang-gliding is fun but you have to watch your take-offs. A bad take-off can mean a crash."

Fluent in Spanish, Mr. Tatlock encourages members of the team to become proficient in the language as soon as possible. His track record also makes him a natural for director of such a program. His background of 30 years' service includes project installation in the Arctic for Western Electric, research and development with Bell-Northern Research, and operations engineering for Bell Canada.

The first phase of the project was general telecommunications planning



John Tatlock stops to buy eggs from an old woman in the jungle. With him are two hunters hired to open trails.



for a national telephone network covering all of Peru except Lima. In 1974 the second two-year phase extended the previous work and called for design of outside plants for installation of switching equipment in several northern cities.

The current phase began in November 1976 and could be finished this November. It includes design of a rural telecommunications network leading into jungle areas in the North and East. ENTEL-Peru had about 55,000 lines while the expansion plan called for an additional 60,000 lines by 1979. About 30,000 new lines have been added thus far.

Just how important is all this work to Peru's development? "The phone links to the interior are vital to the safety and health of the people," says Mr. Tatlock. "There are not enough doctors, and locating one in the rural areas in a hurry is difficult without communications.

"We saw a good example of it. We were having lunch in a village when a Peruvian man walked in, saw that we had been travelling, and asked if we had seen a doctor. His little boy was dying, he said. In fact, we knew there was a doctor less than 15 kilometres away, since we had given him a lift in one of our jeeps."

Mr. Tatlock is optimistic about development of the interior once phone links are installed and especially when roads are built. Transportation is now largely by mule trail or by rivers which wind their way to the Amazon.

The long-term plan is to prevent the drift to coastal cities like Lima and to get people to work the land. "There is plenty of land in the valleys that would be good for stock-raising. A typical Alberta rancher would love the place," Mr. Tatlock said.

"Although the job is tough and challenging, it is rewarding," he said. "You don't get time to become bored. One has the opportunity to learn about

a new culture and to speak a new language. Everyone who has worked on this project has become reasonably proficient in Spanish."

"If there is one thing Peru teaches, it is the value of politeness. A smile will get you much further than a serious expression, under almost any circumstances. The handshake, the tap on the arm, the friendly embrace, and the personal visits are all part of it.

"The Peruvians are extremely friendly and outgoing; so friendly, in fact, that they cannot understand it if you are not.

"There is one other important factor. You must remember, that in these countries, there are relatively few Canadians. Our Peruvian friends and associates have probably had very few occasions to meet other Canadians. To them we are an example of what all our people must be like." DD

Brian Upton, a former reporter and editor with newspapers in Montreal and Toronto, is now an information officer with CIDA.

CIDA-funded telecommunications projects

CIDA is currently funding 19 telecommunications projects having a budgetary value of \$138 million. Five projects in Asia are worth a total of \$66 million; four in Francophone Africa, \$48 million; seven in Commonwealth Africa, \$17.6 million; two in the Caribbean, \$5.2 million and one in Latin America, the Peru project, worth \$82,000.

The communications systems are used for general education, teaching family planning, health care, improved farming, and other practices that contribute to self-help.

India recently used a satellite for an educational television experiment that linked some 2.5 million people in 5,000 villages to teach family planning and boost farm production.

The Ivory Coast has an ambitious national educational television program which is aimed at benefiting 974,000 students by 1980. Canada has contributed \$6 million in grants and \$2.5 million in loans to cover technical assistance and the cost of equipment and documents.

Among other examples are assistance to educational radio broadcasting in Tanzania and expansion of the telephone system in Antigua. DD

Canada and the World Food Program

Canada's minister of agriculture, Eugene Whelan, recently flew in and out of New York City in a matter of hours, to inform a United Nations pledging conference that Canada planned to contribute \$190 million in food and cash in the next two years for the World Food Program.

It was more than a symbolic gesture. After the United States, Canada is the largest donor country to WFP's 15-year-old effort to turn surplus food into a development tool. Since last October, the executive director of WFP has been Garson Nathaniel Vogel, who until then, was chief commissioner of the Canadian Wheat Board for six years.

The 1979-80 pledging target was \$950 million. A total of 52 countries in the 149-member world organization, including Canada (\$190 million) and the U.S. (\$220 million), pledged almost \$631 million towards the highest-ever WFP target.

Mr. Vogel was gratified by the pledges. He pointed out that some governments are tardy in their commitments to international programs while others have constitutional inhibitions against financial pledges relatively far into the future.

But Mr. Whelan voiced in his speech to the WFP pledging conference what Mr. Vogel perhaps had to forego for reasons of diplomacy. He said that there must be a political commitment by all governments to overcome poverty so that "everyone can afford food." Then he pointedly stated that "better-off countries, whether developed, oil-rich, centrally planned economies (communist), or economically more advanced developing countries should give greater priority to helping the world's poor and hungry."

This sentiment was echoed by UN Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim. He told the pledging conference that "food aid needs a more dependable base." Mr. Waldheim praised WFP as "an important international instrument" for promoting development through the use of food. He implicitly rejected the view that food aid is a "form of charity," or a continuation of traditional patterns of dependence



Photo: Agriculture Canada

Western grain has always made up a significant portion of Canadian food pledges to the WFP.

between donors and recipients, and therefore a source of complacency.

Mr. Vogel dealt with the facts of life as they appear at present or in the immediate future. He told the pledging conference that in the absence of an unexpectedly rapid fall in birth rates and an increase in average per capita incomes, large sections of populations with either insufficient or practically no income to provide adequate diets will continue to persist in most developing countries in the coming years.

Mr. Vogel also noted that despite the growing volume of WFP projects, they represent only about one-fifth of all global food aid, and reach only a fraction of malnourished people.

Both Canada and Mr. Vogel recognize that food aid takes many forms. But both would like to see WFP develop into a genuine "people's program" through which increasingly more millions of poor people in Third World countries could enhance their social aspirations through development.

Canada has contributed \$475 million towards WFP projects since 1963. Canada recognizes that not every country, developed or not, has an annual food surplus. But Canada pointedly reiterated the fact that others can help WFP through cash donations or services needed to implement WFP projects.

Many of them could—but most have chosen not to—at least not through the impartial UN machinery.

The OPEC countries by and large ignored the WFP pledging conference. Only Kuwait pledged \$400,000 and Ecuador \$50,000. But Mr. Vogel pointed out that Saudi Arabia gave \$50 million last year, and that other oil-rich countries contribute sizeable amounts

of money to buy food for specific countries of their choice.

The communist countries are usually short of food themselves but could provide cash or services. They sometimes do, on a bilateral basis. Hungary pledged \$360,000 towards the WFP's 1979-80 program; Cuba pledged \$1.25 million in sugar; Yugoslavia \$400,000 in food and services, and even Vietnam and Laos offered \$10,000 and \$1,000 respectively. But the Soviet Union and China have rarely participated in any WFP activity.

Mr. Vogel appears resigned to such facts of life. He has no immediate plans to go to Moscow, Peking, or the capitals of the OPEC countries to plead for funds. He points out that even with limited funds, WFP has helped some 54 million people in over 100 countries over the past 15 years with food projects worth more than \$3 billion.

Only about 10 per cent of total food aid channelled through WFP goes towards emergencies. The rest represents carefully-planned projects, 871 of them over the years, designed to promote self-help and development in the Third World. It is a long-term investment in a country's future. It can entail a project for new schools or hospitals, for dams or roads, or telephone links, forests or better farming. Food can serve as an incentive to mobilize unemployed manpower. It can provide school lunches for the future generations of leaders and workers.

Mr. Vogel admits that this is a different challenge from his multi-million-dollar wheat negotiations with the Soviets or the Chinese in former years. But he finds the new challenge equally consuming and "perhaps even a bit more interesting."

"It is a bigger job than I thought. It is vastly more complex than selling wheat," he said in an interview.

Mr. Vogel also finds food the most difficult commodity to work with. It is perishable. It can be stolen, misused or squandered.

Mr. Vogel believes that WFP is "an efficient operation" despite the fact that much depends on the right co-operation from recipient governments. There are only 500 WFP personnel to run WFP. Half of them are at the Rome headquarters. The other half are in the field. Their numbers may have to be increased soon to meet the growing demand for WFP projects. DD

by Jeff Endrst

The Inter-American Development Bank

This year, Vancouver was the scene of the largest annual financial conclave on Latin America—the nineteenth annual meeting of the board of governors of the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) (See news item, p. 3)

The IDB was founded in 1959 by 19 Latin American countries and the United States as a multilateral financial institution to promote economic progress and improvement of life in Latin America. Since then, membership has grown to 41, with the entry of six additional regional countries, including Canada, and 15 nonregional countries located in Europe, Asia and the Middle East.

The location of the meeting in Vancouver this April is symbolic of the bank's recent outward-looking trend. Expansion of the membership has been recent and rapid. All 15 nonregional countries have joined since 1976. This year was the first time the IDB meeting has been held in a country outside either Latin America or the U.S.

The bank's resources in terms of U.S. dollars total more than \$18 billion. Members contribute to two separate sets of bank resources: its capital, which is used to make loans on conventional terms, and its Fund for Special Operations, used for concessional lending.

In its 18 years of operation the bank has provided \$11.9 billion in loans and technical co-operation for economic and social projects in Latin America.

Last year was a record year for approval of new loans. The total for 1977 was \$1.8 billion, an 18 per cent increase over the \$1.5 billion approved in 1976. The majority of the loans (\$1.1 billion) were made on near-commercial terms from the IDB's capital resources. In addition, \$577 million was loaned in concessional funds from the Fund for Special Operations, \$123 million from the Venezuela Trust Fund, and \$2 million from the Social Progress Trust Fund.

Least developed member countries benefited from 72 per cent of the loans made from the Bank's Fund for Special

IDB cumulative lending by sector (by December 31, 1977)

| Sector | Amount (\$U.S. millions) | Percent |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|---------|
| agriculture | 2,746 | 23 |
| electric power | 2,730 | 23 |
| industry and mining | 1,939 | 16 |
| transportation and communication | 1,768 | 15 |
| sanitation | 1,180 | 10 |
| urban development | 538 | 4 |
| education | 527 | 4 |
| export financing | 202 | 2 |
| pre-investment | 190 | 1 |
| tourism | 125 | 1 |
| total | 11,945 | 100 |

Operations. The poorest groups in those countries were also the focus of the Bank's lending.

According to the IDB annual report for 1977 tabled at the Vancouver conference, "the Bank sought not only to increase the means of livelihood of the low-income urban and rural dwellers, but also to enhance the quality of their lives. A large share of the loans financed by the bank in such sectors as electric power, transportation, water and sewage, education and urban development went to help the lower-income classes meet their basic human needs."

The report also noted the multiplier effect of IDB lending, stating that "the \$11.9 billion in loans which the Bank had approved through the end of 1977 was helping to finance development projects whose total cost exceeds \$46 billion."

Canada became a member of the bank on May 3, 1972, bringing the membership at that time to 24, Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados and Jamaica having joined during the 1960s. Canada's entry was the first step in the expansion of the bank's efforts to attract more financial resources by incorporating additional industrial nations into IDB membership.

Even before joining the bank in 1972, Canada had a long association of co-operating with it. In 1964 it had entrusted the IDB with a special trust fund to help finance economic, technical and educational projects in Latin America under highly concessional terms.

Established initially with \$10 million, the fund was enlarged through successive contributions until in 1972 it totalled nearly \$74 million. By the end of 1973, the fund had been totally

committed for projects in bank member countries.

In its six years as a member, Canada's financial participation in the Bank's resources has increased steadily to approximately \$700 million, making it one of the bank's larger contributing member countries. By the end of 1977, Canada's subscription to IDB's capital resources was \$488.6 million, and contributions to the Fund for Special Operations have reached \$127.1 million.

In 1974, Canada also established a Canadian Project Preparation Fund, used by the bank to finance preparation of projects. It has contributed \$9 million to the Fund. The largest commitment to date (\$1.05 million) was for the preparation of studies to develop the Chixoy River Basin in Guatemala.

Canada's Export Development Corporation also entered into an agreement with the IDB in 1965 to channel \$15 million for economic development projects in Latin America in co-operation with the Bank. Funds were totally committed in 1972.

Canadian private banks have also co-operated with the IDB through the use of a complementary financing mechanism instituted in 1975.

Canada's minister of finance, Jean Chrétien, was host of the Vancouver conference. He is Canada's representative on the board of governors, on which all member countries are represented. His alternate is CIDA president, Michel Dupuy.

Canada's voting power, based on its capital subscriptions, is 4.7 per cent. The Latin American countries as a group have 55.5 per cent, the U.S. 34.6 per cent, and the nonregional members 5.2 per cent.

There is also a board of executive directors—one elected by Canada, one by the U.S., two by the 15 nonregional countries, and seven by the 24 Latin American countries. Creation of a seat for a twelfth director to represent the Caribbean members was approved recently. Canada's representative on this board is John D. Blackwood, formerly Canada's deputy consul-general in New York.

The bank's president is Mexico's former finance minister, Antonio Ortiz Mena who was re-elected by the board of governors to serve a second five-year-term that began March 1, 1976.

IDB headquarters are at 808 17th Street, NW, Washington DC, 20577. DD

World Food and the Canadian "Breadbasket"

Canada North South 1977-1978
Volume 4
by The North-South Institute.
68 pages. \$2.00

Most Canadians have realized for some time that when aid to the Third World moved out of the church mission circles and into the realm of government and politics, a lot of social, economic and political factors moved in to push simple care for mankind to the back of the stage.

Canada has always played a role in international development beyond its economic power, partly because of its strong Christian mission background, partly because of its traditional role as middleman between Western power blocs whose interests were often suspect, but primarily because of its great capacity to produce food far in excess of its own needs.

The North-South Institute in the third volume of its North-South Encounter series (it is labelled Volume 4 but it got into print before the one on Commodity Trade) takes a look at that food production capacity and what it really means in terms of providing nourishing diets for the total world population.

On page 54 of the book there is a graph entitled: Food Aid — The Price Connection, which should be tattooed on the arm of everyone interested in closing the food gap with the less developed countries.

The two, almost symmetrical curves demonstrate that when international wheat prices go up, food aid contributions go down; when prices decline, generosity in contributions reappears.

Of course prices go up as production drops, so the periods of strong prices and small aid contributions are generally periods of shortage of supply of domestic grains in the developing countries as well.

As the authors put it: "In times of food shortages, when food aid recipients do indeed need increased supplies, and purchase them commercially to the extent of available foreign exchange, donors prefer the revenues of commercial sales at high prices and tend to give priority to their larger and more

CANADA NORTH SOUTH 1977-1978

World Food and the Canadian "Breadbasket"



influential customers. Producers in developing countries may receive a sudden surge in incentives due to soaring prices, only to have them slashed again during the next period of relative surplus and abundant food aid."

The graph makes another point clear. The "breadbasket" is not Canada, but the United States. In 1970, when food aid contributions reached a record 14 million tons, the U.S. provided 11 million tons of that food. Even when it dropped to below seven million tons in 1974, the United States provided four million tons.

Another set of figures the authors might have used to drive the point home to Canadians would be the anticipated crop acreages for major crops. U.S. farmers will seed nearly twice as many acres of each of the major crops — corn, wheat, barley and soybeans — as the entire Canadian acreage sown to all grains.

The relevance of this information, as the authors point out, is twofold: first — the primary goal in feeding the world should be self-sufficiency; and second — there must be a reserve of grain large enough and protected from international price swings that fluctuations in world markets do not wreck the economies of the food-deficit countries.

There is little in *World Food and the Canadian "Breadbasket"* that hasn't been said before. Its significance is that it brings together all the points of view—many of which have been argued by their individual proponents—and looks at them dispassionately in

terms of the larger goal of providing global food sufficiency.

The Canadian International Development Agency and other Canadian agencies are variously criticized and praised, but so are a number of other countries and programs including both the developed and developing. Passing out laurels or assessing blame is not the aim of the book.

Virtually all of the familiar problems of aid are mentioned and discussed: the inflexibility of tied aid, the incompatibility of some aid with the real needs of the recipients, political instability or intransigence in the recipient country, political pressure groups in the donor country, the adverse impact of large food shipments on the agricultural producers of the developing countries, boot-strap rural rehabilitation versus massive production schemes.

The authors argue that a world grain reserve and multilateral food transfers based on actual need would function best as part of an international grains agreement.

"The possible advantages of a multi-lateral, rather than a bilateral approach to meeting basic food needs are immense in terms of both cost saving and effective delivery. The organizational structure and available stocks associated with an international grain reserve system could provide an ideal basis for meeting present food aid objectives."

It is recognized that even if an international grains agreement is achieved, which is by no means certain, the food bank idea still faces the problems of producer fears of its effect on prices and the unwillingness of some food importing nations to share in the cost of its operation.

Should the world grain talks fail, however, the North-South Institute sets out what it feels are the improvements needed in Canada's own aid operations.

"In the absence of an international grain reserve system, an improved reserve mechanism for food aid transfers is essential in Canada. Such a reserve should be insulated from the market by clear rules governing its purchase and release."

The authors call for "a substantial overhaul and improvement of food aid planning and evaluation capacity within CIDA."

Without a co-ordinated system among the major donor countries, there is a

Rural Health Workers

Produced by IDRC, Ottawa
25 min—color



Is it possible for modern nutritional and medical knowledge to be dispersed from the large urban centres where a country's doctors tend to congregate? The provision of health care in remote rural areas of the world is the problem considered in *Rural Health Workers*.

The film, produced by Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC), exposes the efforts of networks of minimally trained field workers, who handle the first contacts that villagers have with medical services.

Examples of existing programs in Bangladesh, Panama, Venezuela, Thailand, Iran and Saskatchewan (not all of them funded by IDRC) show the variability of particular models—training ranges from five to twenty-six weeks; the areas covered vary from urban shanty towns to widely scattered rural settlements; and the responsibilities vary from providing advice on nutrition and hygiene to providing the only "medical" knowledge available.

The film is good on the whole and can easily be recommended for general public use. It focuses on the issue of health care rather than the projects themselves. However, it follows the familiar problem-solution technique

and provides no critical analysis of the projects it does mention.

Generally, one wonders if a North-American-style medical service is being established in these areas. In the Canadian case, for example, nutrition education included suggestions of southern fruit. Are there no local substitutes for apples that the Indian people are familiar with and use already?

However, the inclusion of a Canadian example is a sound educational practice. In addition, a written guide with discussion topics on more complex questions would aid public groups using the film.

Filmed by IDRC's Neill McKee, and written by Clyde Sanger, the film is excellent in its technical aspects. Bookings should be made well in advance. **DD**

This film is available on loan, free of charge, from: Helene Bradbury, A/V Dept., IDRC, Box 8500, Ottawa, Canada K1G 3H9.

reviewed by Brian Latham

Brian Latham is a community co-ordinator at the Ottawa Learner Centre, one of a network of Canadian community information and animation centres concerned with international affairs.

need for greater decentralization of CIDA personnel in the field and closer association of food aid planning with other aspects of programming.

They suggest that there are cases where aid in fertilizer, for example, would do more towards solving a country's food needs than donations of food, but they also warn that Canadian producers may resist any cut in food purchases by CIDA.

Finally, the authors come around to the time-honored concept that every Sunday school child learns—eat less so the hungry can have more.

"It has been estimated, for example, that in the United States conservation measures no more severe than reducing meat intake by 25 per cent and substituting silage for 25 per cent of the grain fed to cattle would allow a doubling of grain exports by 1985."

To be fair to the North-South Institute, the position is put in a relevant context: first, that present world food production is adequate to feed the world so the problem is basically one of distribution; and second, that the ecological impact of massive increases in food production have not been assessed.

World Food and the Canadian "Breadbasket" is pretty heavy going as the North-South Institute authors—chief economist W.R. Spence and his staff—boil their research down to the fewest possible words. Thorough research and reasoned argument always lack the flair of a one-sided dissertation by someone with an axe to grind.

If one wants a single, handy reference as a guide to the complexities of international development, this is the book to keep at hand. **DD**



reviewed by Henry Heald

Henry Heald reports on agriculture for the *Ottawa Journal*. He is also president of the Eastern Canada Farm Writers Association and a director of the Canadian Farm Writers Association.

Towards self-reliance in disaster relief

by James Lewis

An article in the May 1978 issue of *Development Directions* amply described some points of view concerning disaster relief. That there are many opinions on a subject of such recent interest will be well known to readers of this magazine.

What is less well known is that quietly and in the background, steps are being taken by a few countries to reduce by themselves the impact of the next disaster—and thus the need for disaster relief.

However, reports continue to reinforce the donor-oriented view, concentrating on the largest disasters. Measures for disaster prevention, mitigation or preparedness are often only mentioned from the point of view of simplifying the job of the international relief machine, rather than reducing losses. Concern is expressed that the 49 less-developed countries listed by the UN as most seriously affected by disaster have not progressed with preparedness measures, even less with preventive strategies.

But are they the most "affected" countries? They certainly suffer the largest numbers of dead, injured and homeless, but the greatest effect of disaster on a country is not necessarily due to the size of the disaster but to its national scale.

The two million people made homeless by the tropical cyclone in Andhra Pradesh in November 1977 represented 4.5 per cent of the state's total population and only 0.33 per cent of the total population of India. But in Fiji in 1972, Hurricane "Bebe" affected 120,000 people, who represented 22 per cent of the national population—a far greater national disaster and a much greater effect.

There are many reasons why those 49 countries are not showing alacrity in adopting recommendations for preparedness and preventive measures. One is surely the scale of the probable effect of disasters on them. Most of those countries are large enough for losses to be minor in relation to national resources. The few exceptions are some of the countries which have recently been severely hit.



Photo: Red Cross

Devastation wrought by Andhra Pradesh cyclone.

Whether qualifying for the (externally assessed) most-seriously-affected league or not, small island developing countries can be so greatly affected by disaster as to have all local resources available for relief purposes wiped out.

The scale of a disaster in a small country has a far greater impact than the size of a disaster in a larger country. A report produced in 1973 by the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) drew attention to the high impact of natural disasters upon island developing countries. In these countries some of the first steps are being taken towards integrated disaster preparedness and prevention programs.

One of the earliest attempts to study the requirements of pre-disaster planning for a specific location was sponsored by the League of Red Cross Societies and undertaken by England's University of Bradford Disaster Research Unit (now disbanded) in the Bahama Islands.

The Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation (to which Canada is the largest single contributor) subsequently sponsored a study for the South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation, representing 10 island country members, which requested the study themselves. The total population of the region is 3.5 million with 2.5 million situated in Papua New Guinea.

The remaining million spread between nine island groups do not suffer disasters which can compare in size with the international league, but do have disasters of catastrophic national scale. Recognition of this fact and of their remoteness and physical and political smallness has led these countries to establish a regional disaster

fund, now being put to use in accordance with the recommendations prepared for it by the study.

As a result of one recommendation of this study, the first disaster preparedness seminar was held in Fiji in 1976 by the League of Red Cross Societies and the Commonwealth Secretariat with the support of the United Nations Disaster Relief Organization (UNDRO). Participants attended from many Pacific countries. The fund is likely to be the catalyst for further measures by member countries, and Tonga has recently expressed interest in such an undertaking.

The additional significance of regional co-operation by such groups of small countries is that indigenous resources for disaster relief, such as food, building materials, medical supplies and expertise, and financial commitments from the disaster fund are mutually available. Access and transportation are pre-arranged as part of preparedness planning. Perhaps the most significant resource is resourcefulness itself, the fund being its manifestation.

One would hope that Canada, as one of world's largest donors of development and relief aid, will join, through its non-governmental organizations and CIDA, the movement towards a more comprehensive approach to disaster. The approach should be not only through relief, but in preventive planning and preparedness programs integrated with a development process aimed at greater self-reliance for the developing world. **DD**

James Lewis, a British architect, was the co-founder in 1973 of the University of Bradford's Disaster Research Unit in England (the first of its kind in the world). He is now a senior research fellow at the Centre for Development Studies at the University of Bath and has his own consultancy service in natural disaster mitigation.

He has undertaken projects in precautionary planning for natural disasters in the Caribbean, and for a 10-country region of the South Pacific. The Leverhulme Trust Fund in Britain recently provided a grant of about \$100,000 to assist him in his three-year study of natural disaster vulnerability.

Readers of *Development Directions* are invited to send submissions to this column. Items should not be more than 1,000 words, preferably typed and double spaced. Send submissions to:

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DEVELOPMENT DIRECTIONS

A NEWSMAGAZINE ON INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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A note from the editor-in-chief

In this third issue of *Development Directions*, editor Sharleen Bannon has commissioned articles which tackle two aid-related topics of particular concern to the Canadian business sector: the debate over untying Canada's aid funds and the failure of Canadian business to win more World Bank contracts for overseas development projects.

Veteran journalist, Ben Malkin analyses various viewpoints on the controversial topic of tied aid. Business writer Jane Chudy explores the reasons — bureaucratic, economic, and political — for Canada's relatively poor showing in procuring World Bank contracts.

Again on the business theme, *Development Directions* United Nations correspondent Jeff Endrst discusses the dilemmas facing the UN in its efforts to draft a code of conduct for transnational corporations.

This issue also contains a summary of the Economic Council of Canada's thought-provoking analysis of Canada's development assistance program and its inter-relationship with this country's economy and its immigration, trade, and manufacturing policies.

Other items include a look at a Canadian-sponsored aerial mapping survey of the remote Himalaya-encircled kingdom of Nepal and a fisheries project in the Philippines supported by the Canadian-funded International Development Research Centre.

Special thanks to the following people for their help in preparing this issue of the magazine: Howard Smith, Allan Thornley, Candace Harris, and Stan Moore.

Development Directions is published nine times a year by the Canadian International Development Agency under the authority of the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honorable Don C. Jamieson. Issues are printed in January, February, March, April, May, July, September, October, and November.

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The opinions expressed in this magazine do not necessarily reflect the opinion or policies of the Canadian International Development Agency.

Development Directions welcomes letters to the editor. Submissions should be addressed to:

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Development Directions est également disponible gratuitement en français sous le titre *Directions du Développement*. Toute demande doit être adressée au responsable de la diffusion. *Directions du Développement* L'Agence canadienne de développement international.

ISSN 0705-064X

Second Class Mail
Registration Number 4353

Contract No. OKX7-1173
Beauregard Press
Printed in Canada

Cover:

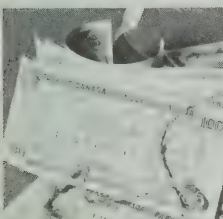
Photography, Crombie McNeill
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The debate over untying Canada's aid funds

by Ben Malkin

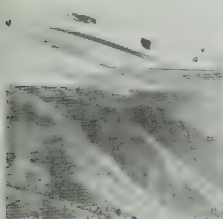
A crucial aid issue is analysed.
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TNC — UN writing a code of conduct for transnationals

by Jeff Endrst

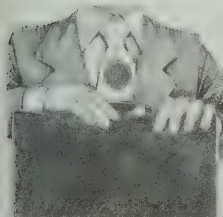
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Aerial survey aids development in Nepal

by Sue Morrow Lockwood

Canadian planes help map a remote mountain country.
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Why Canadian business is not getting more World Bank contracts

by Jane Chudy

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by Gamini Seneviratne

Philippines fisheries project may help to solve Asian food problems.
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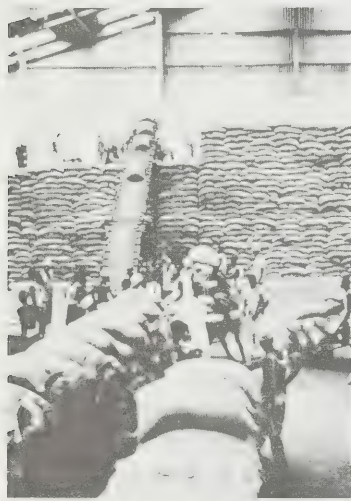
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Food

Food aid efforts inadequate



Emergency food supplies stockpiled in warehouses are often available when shortages are reported. photo: UN

Donor countries have not been doing enough to support international food aid programs, according to top officials at the United Nations.

G.N. Vogel, executive director of the World Food Programme (WFP), said in an address to the WFP's governing body in Rome, that despite record high pledges of more than \$600 million at the WFP's spring pledging conference, lack of adequate resources is forcing the WFP to make "the hard choice" of denying food-for-development aid to many projects in the needy countries and to scale down other projects.

He told the governing body—the Committee on Food Aid Policies and Programmes (CFA)—that the pledges, for 1979-80, amounted to only 72 per cent of the \$950 million target. He noted that of the \$750 million target set for 1977-78, only 82 per cent had been reached.

In addition, Mr. Vogel who was chief commissioner of the Canadian Wheat Board for six years, said the WFP was handicapped by the unbalanced composition of its food basket. Countries did not pledge enough dairy products, particularly milk, other protein foods such as pulses, and there was not enough rice.

He added that 85 per cent of food aid is still moving through bilateral channels, rather than through multilateral institutions such as the WFP.

Edouard Saouma, director-general of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), told the same gathering that present food aid is "tragically inadequate" and cannot cope with emergency situations. In reviewing international efforts, he noted that the target of 10 million tons of grain a year set by the World Food Conference in 1974 had never been reached.

Regarding emergency aid, he said the \$45 million allocated annually from WFP resources plus amounts from the international emergency food reserve were inadequate to meet pressing needs. In the event of sudden disasters, there is no system of food security at the world level, he said.

Kurt Waldheim, secretary-general of the UN, in a message to the CFA, urged donor countries to raise their contributions to the international emergency food reserve to the minimum annual target of 500,000 tons. Contributions now total 245,000 tons.

Food shortages reported in 26 countries

The global information and early warning system of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has warned that relief action is required to assist 26 countries facing abnormal food shortages.

In Africa, five countries in particular—Ethiopia, Niger, Mali, Chad and Ghana—require relief urgently.

Drought and disruptions caused by armed conflict have affected harvests in Ethiopia, and limited port capacity and internal transportation make import and distribution of emergency supplies difficult. The Horn of Africa has also been severely affected by a scourge of locusts which have devastated crops.

Sahel countries have received only part of the food aid needed to make up for last year's shortfall in production caused by drought. In addition,

rains began early in Mali and Niger, making delivery of food to the interior difficult.

Food shortages have also been reported in the African countries of Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Togo, Burundi and Mozambique. Large numbers of refugees in Angola and Zaire are also causing food shortages in those countries.

In South East Asia additional food aid pledges are required to cover needs in Laos and Vietnam. Harvests in Vietnam have been affected by drought and widespread insect infestation.

WFC invited to meet in Canada in 1979

Canada will make a supplementary contribution to the World Food Programme to bring its total contribution for 1978-79 to 400,000 tons of food in addition to the annual cash contribution of \$95 million already pledged for 1979 and 1980.

The announcement was made by Agriculture Minister Eugene Whelan at a meeting of the 34-nation World Food Council (WFC), held in Mexico in mid-June. He also reiterated Canada's commitment to the alleviation of world hunger and malnutrition, as manifested by the approximately 200 agricultural projects it is funding through CIDA in developing countries. Mr. Whelan also invited the council to hold next year's session in Canada.

The members, attending the WFC's fourth session since its formation in 1974, committed themselves to assisting the world's most food-deficient countries to take practical measures to increase their food production.

They agreed to provide assistance to certain "food-priority" countries in the formulation of food and nutrition plans, closely linked to the rest of their agricultural development strategy and national development plans.

Based on measures identified by these plans, the WFC would then establish arrangements for obtaining funding from the international donor community.

Members adopted a "Declaration of Mexico" which:

- urged developed countries to reach the official development assistance target of 0.7 per cent of gross national product, to provide the external resources needed for a 4 per cent annual growth in food production in least developed countries;
 - urged developing countries to review among themselves their own internal constraints on increasing food production, and develop specific proposals for overcoming them;
 - proposed that an International Emergency Grain Reserve be established and maintained at an annual level of 500,000 tons;
 - called on governments to adopt a goal of eradicating vitamin A deficiency and endemic goitre within the next decade;
 - requested governments and multilateral agencies to support the efforts of the Sahel countries to overcome their critical food problem.
- Other conclusions dealt with food security, increased and improved food aid, the contribution of trade to the solution of food problems, and the diversion of funds from armament expenditures to food production programs.

Africa Tanzania Rail Project



Dockworkers unload 80-ft. rail sections from the Sydney Steel Corporation (Sydney, N.S.) to be used in the rebuilding of a 180-mile rail line in central Tanzania. photo: CIDA

Trailers for Mali



One of six Travelux Coach trailers destined for Mali on display at CIDA headquarters. The trailers will serve as home and office for six co-operants from Tamcon International (Montreal) being sent by CIDA to carry out an extensive five-year rural development project. photo: Bob Anderson.

Nigerians to train in Canadian technical schools

Five hundred Nigerian students will arrive in Canada this fall to receive technical training at community colleges and universities across the country. The training has been arranged under a five-year agreement recently signed by the Canadian department of industry, trade and commerce (ITC) and the Nigerian federal ministry of education.

The Nigerian government will pay the full costs of training, maintenance, and administration for 500 students a year until 1983, and ITC estimates that revenue for Canada will be about \$5 million a year. At the request of the Nigerian government, the administration of the program has been contracted to the Canadian Bureau for International Education (CBIE).

Nigeria has prospered in recent years because of its petroleum exports. For this reason, CIDA has been phasing out its assistance programs in Nigeria. The country's education system has not been able to keep pace with the rapidly growing economy and the government predicts a need for thousands of technically-trained people in the next decade.

In an effort to meet this need, the Nigerian government sent large numbers of college-level students to the United States and Britain in the fall of 1977. In addition, the Nigerian commissioner of education, Colonel A.A. Ali came to Canada last fall to ask for Canada's help.

Negotiations involving the federal and provincial governments and CBIE culminated in the signing of the agreement in June. The arrangement forms part of a larger agreement of economic and technical co-operation between Canada and Nigeria.

Trucks to Sudan



One of five dump-trucks and a van recently sent by CIDA for the Sudan southern roads maintenance project ending in 1980. The \$1.7 million grant includes \$1 million for machinery (bulldozers and graders have already been sent) and the remainder for technical staff. photo: Andrew Bako.

Tanzanian project augmented by Agriculture Canada

Agriculture Canada is hiring three farmers with experience in dryland wheat production and three diesel mechanics to provide special expertise for three 4,000-hectare wheat research farms in Tanzania.

The farms, in the northern highlands of the east African country, were established in 1971 by the government of Tanzania with the assistance of the Canadian International Development Agency.

Agriculture Canada personnel are sharing Canadian production methods and experience with Tanzanians at the three farms. Each Canadian scientist and technician on the project has a Tanzanian

counterpart in training.

The Tanzanian government wanted Canadian wheat-growing know-how because the highland soils and precipitation levels (about 550 mm a year) are similar to those on the Canadian Prairies.

In addition, Tanzania wanted to use the highly mechanized Canadian production methods to produce a marketable surplus. Mechanization also permits planting and harvesting of large areas within the short critical periods when high yields can be achieved.

Canadian scientists have contributed to the project with crop varieties and management techniques suited to the area. Wheat yields have risen from an average of 400 kilograms per hectare to 2,000 kilograms per hectare in the past two years.

Asia

Ariyaratne promotes Sri Lankan village program as development model

"We must be more than development administrators. We must be development philosophers," Ari Ariyaratne, told a group of CIDA personnel at the agency's headquarters, recently. As founder of the Sarvodaya Shramadana, Mr. Ariyaratne has spent the past 20 years spearheading a grass-roots movement helping the people of Sri Lanka to build a new society "from the village up."

Mr. Ariyaratne — a Sri Lankan — called for a new definition of development and a new cadre of development workers. "If those involved with development would stress the spiritual and cultural aspects of man, rather than the economical," he suggested, "we could achieve human development."

Perhaps the greatest appeal of the Sarvodaya Shramadana movement, which in the local language means "the awakening of all through the gift of labor," is this holistic approach to devel-

opment. The movement seeks to awaken individuals, families and communities to their own potential by helping them to understand that they can make and carry out their own development plans and meet their own needs.

Mr. Ariyaratne, a widely-published author on development issues, urged development agencies to search out the potential in people and to put it to work, and to drop their distant bureaucratic approach to meeting human needs. Agencies should adopt this same rule in their treatment of each other for even greater realization of their development potential, he said. "Development agencies should concentrate on their similarities and work together more," he proposed, "rather than concentrating on their differences."

With support from the people and the government of Sri Lanka, the Sarvodaya Shramadana has been able to expand its program to involve approximately 1,500 villages and thousands of individuals. This expansion has also been made possible in part through international support from non-governmental organizations from several industrialized countries. Canadian support for the movement has come from Oxfam and the World University Service of Canada in conjunction with approximately \$224,000 in CIDA funds since 1975.

Petro-Can and CIDA aiding Pakistan's oil and gas sector

Under the terms of an innovative agreement involving CIDA, Petro-Canada, and the Pakistan government's oil and gas agency, Canada will play a key role in the development of Pakistan's promising oil and gas reserves.

The Pakistan government, specifically the Oil and Gas Development Corporation (OGDC), asked Canada to provide the required technical expertise and equipment through Petro-Canada, because of its similarity to its counterpart, the OGDC.

Petro-Canada is not involved in any investment program, but will provide some technical ex-

pertise from its own sources as well as drawing on consultants from the private sector. Specific projects will be identified which could result in an oil and gas development program involving about \$70 million in CIDA financing for three to five years.

CIDA is working in conjunction with the World Bank and the British Overseas Development Ministry (ODM) in this program. Canada's current involvement in the oil and gas sector involves an \$8 million seismic exploration project (including training and equipment), an \$8 million drilling rig project, and a \$15 million line of credit. In future the entire program including new projects will be managed for CIDA by Petro-Canada.

Development of the energy sector is basic to Pakistan's overall progress. The country currently spends about \$400 million a year to import petroleum products. This contributes to a serious balance-of-payments problem which has been aggravated by the oil price explosion.

Canada has been involved in Pakistan's energy sector for more than 20 years. The country's hydro resources are now largely developed, and Canada contributed substantially to the present availability of electricity in the country's rural areas. About 60 per cent of Pakistan's electrical power is used directly for agriculture, primarily in irrigation.

Development of other sources of energy—oil and gas—will also assist in agriculture and rural development. The abundant gas reserves can be used to feed the fledgling fertilizer industry which should have sufficient capacity to meet domestic needs by 1979.

Exploitation of oil reserves will provide petroleum products ranging from kerosene (used for cooking fuel) to diesel fuel and gasoline (for transportation of agricultural and industrial goods). These products are in short supply in Pakistan, affecting most critically the poorest segments of the population.

CIDA, the World Bank and the ODM hope to see Pakistan move towards self-sufficiency in petroleum products, so it can meet domestic needs including the generation of more power for its agriculture and industries.

Canadian locomotives for Bangladesh

A group of Bangladeshi technicians stand in front of one of the 12 Canadian locomotives sent to Bangladesh. With them are Pierre Sansfaçon, MLW training officer and Ray Smith, GE technical representative. photo: MLW



by Daniel Fontigny

Twelve brand-new locomotives under protective covers sit lined up in a factory east of Montreal waiting to be sent to Bangladesh where they will go into service at the beginning of September.

These diesel locomotives, worth \$400,000 each, manufactured by Montreal Locomotive Works (MLW) will replace equipment destroyed during the civil war in Bangladesh (formerly East Pakistan) in 1971. Before the war, Canada has already provided East Pakistan with 40 locomotives. After the war CIDA began an aid program which has helped Bangladesh rebuild 80 per cent of its destroyed railway equipment.

In this country of 80 million people, the railway is of vital importance because 35 per cent of passenger and freight transport is done by train. The 12 locomotives from Canada will be a welcome addition to the current equipment, much of which has been in service for more than 30 years.

The project, financed by CIDA with the assistance of CANAC Consultants Ltd. which acted as adviser, also included an advanced training course for some technical staff chosen by CIDA in Bangladesh.

Last May, the MLW training officer, Pierre Sansfaçon, welcomed a group of 10 Bangladeshi technicians at Mirabel Airport, near Montreal. As Mr. Sansfaçon explained, this was the technicians' first contact with North America where the way of life was much different from their own. He added, that in addition to theory courses in MLW factories, the company had organized several visits to assembly and finishing plants, including those of Canadian National and Canadian Pacific. MLW has been manufacturing locomotives since 1904 and is now part of the Bombardier group of companies.

Under the watchful eye of MLW, the technicians spent six weeks familiarizing themselves with certain technical aspects of the new machines: the compressed air, admission, cooling and lubrication systems. They were also given a complete description of the diesel engine and instruction on inspection, problem prevention and emergency repair. The 10 visitors already had solid background in locomotives because in Bangladesh they worked as technical supervisors holding such jobs as shop overseers and foremen.

CIDA is currently establishing two training centres in Bangladesh which will be directed by four instructors. The future instructors'

chosen from among technicians who have undergone training in Canada, have taken an additional course in teaching methodology which will enable them to pass on their newly acquired knowledge to other technicians. The total CIDA budget for the Bangladesh locomotive project in the fiscal year 1977-78 is \$8.3 million.

Canada has provided various countries with railway equipment during the past several years. Between 1967 and 1969, India received locomotives valued at \$22 million. The East African Community took delivery of 35 engines in 1970. Malawi received four and Nigeria received 54 in 1971. In 1972, Tunisia was sent new locomotives worth \$9 million and in 1974 Sri Lanka received locomotives valued at \$5 million.

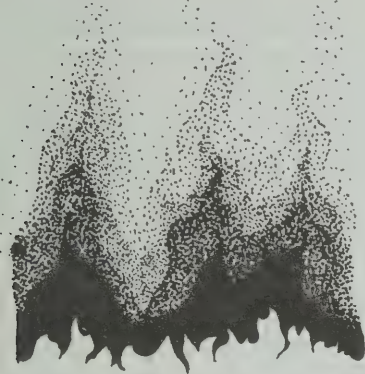
CIDA's development assistance to Bangladesh in fiscal year 1977-78 totalled \$73 million for energy, transport, agriculture and food aid programs.

DD

Daniel Fontigny is assistant editor of *Directions du Développement*, the French language edition of *Development Directions*. He is a former journalist who spent a year in Algeria, Niger, Benin, Ivory Coast, Nigeria and Biafra writing articles for *Perspectives*, a Montreal-based magazine.

Latin America

New Brunswickers sent on Honduran forestry project



Forest protection officers from New Brunswick will help develop a system to prevent and fight forest fires in Honduras. Their work will be funded by CIDA as part of a \$1.2 million grant for forest protection in that country.

The aim of the project is to reduce fire damage to one per cent of current losses in intensive protection areas. The grant also provides for training in Canada of Hondurans, establishment of protection laws, and a program to sensitize rural populations to the need for protecting the forests.

About 80 per cent of Honduras' forests — the major natural resource — is unprotected and suffers annual losses. The New Brunswick team will spend three years establishing a modern system of administration and communications to detect and extinguish fires, primarily over an area of a million hectares in the Olancho forest.

The state-owned Honduran Forest Development Corporation (COHDEFOR) is developing the vast Olancho and other timber areas. COHDEFOR is buying equipment from Canada under a \$12 million line of credit for five years. It resells the equipment to small- and medium-sized enterprises and co-operatives on a credit basis. Interest on the credit goes into a fund used to finance reforestation and rural community services.

The corporation, which expects to create 4,000 new forest jobs, is also financed by the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, and Venezuela.

Canadians are working on three other projects in the Honduras forestry sector under grants totalling \$5 million. These include an inventory of 1.5 million hectares of forest land, a feasibility study of hardwood potential, and management services and institutional support for COHDEFOR.

Multilateral institutions

Jamieson urges OECD to deal with development issues

The growing economic interdependence of developed and developing countries was the subject of a speech given by Canada's secretary of state for external affairs, Don Jamieson, at a recent ministerial meeting of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development in Paris.

"Action to deal with the world's economic problems must take account of developing countries," he said. On the subject of trade, he said that Canada placed great importance on the current round of multilateral trade negotiations, particularly in the formulation of codes relating to non-tariff measures.

He affirmed that "an open trading system is vital." He called for further liberalization on the part of industrial countries, but also noted that developing countries must adopt "policies which will contribute to an open world system for the benefit of all nations."

Mr. Jamieson also addressed the topic of energy, explaining that "the energy sector holds out great challenges and possibilities in an interdependent world." He said that "Canada supports efforts to stimulate applied research and development of new sources of energy and to encourage exploration and development

of conventional energy in developing countries." He noted that Canada's development assistance programs have already been used to support these activities.

If these and other development plans are to be realized, Mr. Jamieson said, "increased resource flows to developing countries, whether in the form of aid or private investment, are essential." He said that the total flow of official aid was too low, and explained that despite Canada's balance of payments deficits, it still had a continuing obligation to the aid effort.

Year of the child

CIDA-sponsored student contest



photo: Felix Kerr

CIDA is sponsoring a national poster competition beginning this fall to highlight the 1979 United Nations International Year of the Child (IYC).

Through an educational campaign, CIDA hopes to reach more than one million students with a basic message about international development goals and IYC activities. Students will be encouraged to send for a 16-page booklet, *Ourselves and Others*, which has just been produced.

On the basis of information and illustrations contained in this booklet, students are invited to submit one hand-drawn poster depicting one of the 10 fundamental principles enshrined in the UN Declaration of the Rights of the Child.

All entrants will receive a certificate and the winning drawings will appear in a book (or calendar) to be published in late

1979. For copies of the booklet or details of the competition write, after September 15, to the Public Affairs Division, CIDA, 200 rue Principale, Hull, Quebec, K1A 0G4.

The IYC poster competition is part of CIDA's continuing educational program, an attempt to make students aware of development issues and Third World needs. Previous publications which are still available include: *The Adventures of Billy Buyer in Africa*, a 16-page comic book which differentiates between the usage of *need* and *want*; *The Great Canadian Foreign Aid Quiz*, an amusing test to prove how much people don't know about Canada's foreign assistance program; and *The World In Development*, a full color wall-size map with demographic and statistical information about the world's nations.

Free copies of these printed materials plus information about CIDA's two multi-media kits are available from the Public Affairs Division, CIDA.

Provincial programs Alberta aid reaches \$3.7 million

The Alberta government provided \$3.7 million during 1977-78 to non-governmental organizations (NGOs) working in developing countries. In an annual report released by the Alberta Department of Culture, the government gives details of its international assistance program, begun in 1974 to supplement funds raised by NGOs in Alberta for international development assistance and emergency relief programs.

The amount of funds provided has increased by almost four times since the program began. Projects receiving funds are usually in the sectors of small agricultural development, potable water, irrigation, health, literacy, co-operative village enterprises, refugee programs, feeding programs, and cottage industries.

Priority is given to projects in the poorest countries, directed to the poorest people, and designed to meet the basic needs of the people.

Last year 36 NGOs received funds for 201 projects in 62 countries. An NGO is obliged to contribute at least as much financial support to a project as it is receiving from the government. The total contribution made by the people and the government of Alberta for international assistance during 1977-78 was about \$8 million, according to the report. In most instances these total funds are also matched by CIDA.

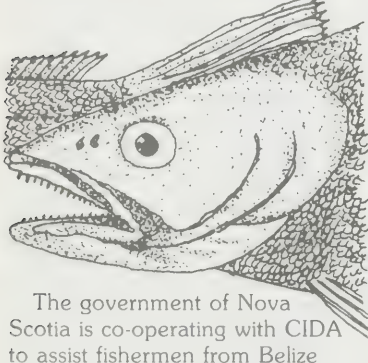
Of the \$3.7 million provided by the government last year, about \$2.5 million was in cash and \$1.2 million "in kind"—goods and services purchased in Alberta and transferred overseas. For example, a \$350,000 donation was made to 11 voluntary agencies to purchase Alberta products for use in their feeding programs in Asia and Africa. The funds were used to buy powdered milk and eggs, cooking oil, honey and sugar. CIDA paid for the shipping costs through the Voluntary Agricultural Development Aid program (VADA).

Saskatchewan also has a matching grant scheme for NGOs, and other provinces—notably Manitoba and British Columbia—have provided similar assistance in the past.

More information on the Alberta program may be obtained from

Ray Verge,
Alberta Culture,
14th floor, CN Tower,
Edmonton, Alberta,
Canada T5J 0K5.

Belize fishermen to train in Nova Scotia



The government of Nova Scotia is co-operating with CIDA to assist fishermen from Belize to upgrade their knowledge of fisheries techniques and navigation.

Twenty fishermen from Belize are attending an eight-week course from August 21 to October 14 at the Fisheries Training Center at Pictou, Nova Scotia. CIDA is underwriting the travel expenses of the trainees while Nova Scotia is providing the training expertise.

The program has been brought about through a unique federal-provincial organization called the Voluntary Agricultural Development Aid (VADA) program, and marks the province's entry into the area of international development. (See DD, May '78, p. 8)

Belize, formerly known as British Honduras, is a tiny nation located along the eastern coast of Central America. Fishing is an integral part of the country's way of life. There are five co-operatives managing the fishing industry. More than 80 per cent of the catch is exported—mainly to the United States.

Until now, there has been little formal training for Belizean fishermen. While in Nova Scotia, the fishermen will receive training in navigation, deep-sea fishing techniques, maintenance and repair of engines, and net-mending.

Jim McLevey, director of training and field services at the Nova Scotia department of fisheries, who arranged the training program said the objective this year will be to improve deep-sea fishing techniques and use of navigational aids.

He explained that electronic equipment is gradually being introduced in the Belizean fishery but that training is needed. It is hoped that use of navigational aids will enable fishermen to navigate around a major barrier reef located off their coast, and thereby expand their fishing grounds.

The 20 candidates chosen for the training are highly successful fishermen and it is hoped that they will share their training experience with other fishermen in Belize.

Dan Reid, Nova Scotia fisheries minister, noted that this year's course is a pilot program which may become an on-going arrangement.

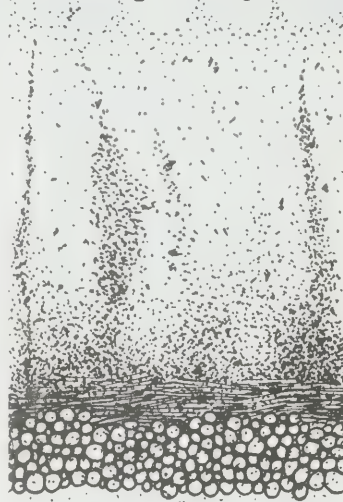
CIDA

Information Division changes its name

CIDA's Information Division has been rechristened the "Public Affairs Division." The name change reflects a shift in emphasis in the division's role—from providing an information-handout service to taking a more active part in sensitizing the public to Canada's development assistance programs. New communications strategies are expected to be announced in the near future.

Water

Filtration system developed by AIT



A low-cost technique for providing clean water in rural areas, developed at the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) in Bangkok, Thailand, may be an answer for developing countries seeking solutions to the problems of supplying clean water to the poorest sectors of their population.

N.C. Thanh, director of AIT's environmental engineering division, provided details of the project to interested members of CIDA staff at a recent briefing held by CIDA's Prospective Unit at agency headquarters. The project, called "low-cost water supply for rural areas", which applies the principles of appropriate technology, was financed with the help of the International Development Research Centre in Ottawa.

According to Dr. Thanh, the new technique overcomes two primary constraints on development of rural water supply — financing and technology. It is inexpensive and the technical expertise required to install and operate it is minimal. A third constraint, administration, is still a problem in Asia, but Dr. Thanh says that antipathy to rural needs seems to be a phenomenon of the past and most governments are now contributing to rural development and water supply needs.

The main problem for developing countries in using tropical surface water has traditionally been the removal of turbidity caused by clay and suspended silt. Conventional techniques are usually too costly and too technical.

AIT finds that the most suitable technique for application in rural areas is slow-rate filtration. It uses less mechanical equipment than conventional systems and is labor-intensive. Also, locally available materials such as coconut fibre, pea gravel, crushed stone, sand or burnt rice husks were found to be adaptable as filtering media.

AIT found that, used by itself, the slow filter became clogged, so the engineers developed a "horizontal pre-filter" which removes much of the turbidity before the water reaches the main filter.

Dr. Thanh selected Jedee-Thong, a village of about 720 inhabitants, for installation of the first filter system. The commitment of the villagers to the project was one of the main criteria in selecting the village. Construction, operation and maintenance of the system were undertaken by the local people.

Construction costs for the plant amounted to about \$5,000 and the operating cost is about \$75 a month.

Dr. Thanh said the system has potential for widespread use throughout Asia. AIT trains students from 20 Asian countries and 95 per cent of them return to their homelands to apply their knowledge there.

Of course, the "low-cost water supply for rural areas" project is only one of many projects of varying degrees of sophistication in which AIT is engaged. The in-

The debt burden of the have-nots



photo: CIDA

The growing indebtedness of the developing countries is an increasingly worrisome subject to both creditor and debtor nations. Through expert United Nations bodies and through competent lending and development organizations and institutions, a continuing North-South dialogue has produced clearer mutual understanding of the issue but no realistic hope that satisfactory solutions are at hand.

This is the reluctant analysis of experts who went over specific recommendations on debt relief by the UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in Geneva during January and February.

Again in March at the ministerial level meeting of the Trade and Development Board of UNCTAD in Geneva, no breakthrough occurred despite an ostensible attempt to provide a badly needed political push towards practical solutions.

The external official debt of all non-oil exporting developing countries stood at about \$200 billion at the end of 1977. Only Canada, Sweden, the Netherlands and Switzerland have written off some debts owed by 29 of the world's poorest countries which are among the most seriously affected by the current economic crisis. Canada's total write-off represented a \$254 million saving to some of these debtor nations.

But the United States, the European Economic Community and other major creditor nations remain adamantly opposed to the idea of debt write-offs. They find this approach manifestly unfair to countries which are conscientiously struggling—and often succeeding—to pay their commitments. They argue that if the debts were to be written off, the institution of international money-lending would die with it.

The money-lenders say that poor countries, or those in temporary difficulties, would in effect become wards of international charity.

The have-not countries turn this argument around. They point out that the \$1 billion offered by the West in Paris in June 1977 to ease the debt problem covers less than one third of the annual cost of just paying interest on the \$200 billion collective debt.

The developing countries want a generalized relief which would benefit between 40 and 50 countries. They argue that the current debt problems originate from external causes which are beyond their control. They calculate that it would save them \$600 million a year in debt service payments if the creditor countries agreed to convert outstanding official debts of the 29 most seriously affected countries into grants.

But even Sweden does not accept the notion of a generalized debt problem per se, nor

does it accept the notion of generalized measures to deal with debt problems. What Sweden does say is that the \$600 million a year the poor countries should be paying to service their debts amounts to only 4 per cent of official development assistance by the "haves". Sweden feels that an adjustment of the terms of past debt to current aid conditions would not entail an insurmountable effort on the part of the industrialized world.

The United States and the EEC see the debt problem in the perspective of the developing countries' economic objectives. They find that the debt problem is not uniform and that it is manageable. They agree that countries with a limited export growth potential and a limited access to capital markets should receive more aid to promote their development. But they suggest that others which do not necessarily share these problems should improve the economic growth rates to help them repay their past loans.

The East European countries side with the developing countries in the argument that current forms and methods of regulating "international capitalist credit relations" are inadequate to deal with the critical debt situation. But they do not feel that their own financial and economic ties with the poor countries should undergo changes beneficial to the "have-nots."

The Communist countries attribute the situation to "the crisis of world capitalism". Their suggested remedy is also seemingly in line with the desires of the developing world. They see a long-term solution in the restructuring of economic relations between the "capitalist" and Third World countries. For themselves, the East European nations advocate a different approach. Leaving the past aside, they propose to "work out solutions ahead of time on credit and other financial issues, including terms of repayment." They offered no clues on what they had in mind when their experts made that proposal at the recent discussions in Geneva.

by Jeff Endrst

stitute emphasizes practical application in the field of techniques developed through research and training in the classroom.

AIT is an independent, international and non-profit educational institution established in 1959 and chartered in 1967. CIDA is providing \$2.8 million over five years until 1979 for conferences, training scholarships and faculty support at AIT.

Voluntary organizations

CESO branches out

CESO—the Canadian Executive Service Overseas—has begun working with CIDA's Bilateral Branch and such multilateral organizations as the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in a special effort to provide its volunteer services to the world's poorest countries.

This new approach is in line with CIDA's policy of the last few years to assist the poorest people in the poorest countries. Through the larger organizations CESO hopes to become more familiar with development projects where its volunteers can help.

CESO, which recruits retired businessmen and technologists to act as unsalaried consultants on short-term assignments in developing countries, started a total of 286 projects this year. CESO, which this year celebrates its tenth anniversary, was created in December 1967 by a group of Canadian businessmen at the suggestion of CIDA. It started four projects in 1968 and has since completed 1,768 projects in more than 70 developing countries.

Most CESO projects in recent years have been in the Philippines, Brazil, the Caribbean and Latin America. CESO also provides its services to native Indian bands across Canada.

CESO's headquarters are: 1130 Sherbrooke St. W., Suite 350, Montreal, Quebec, Canada H3A 2M8.

Economic Council report on Canada's relations with the Third World

A recently-released report by the Economic Council of Canada makes major recommendations concerning Canada's future relations with the developing countries. One of the major recommendations is that part of Canada's industrial sector be restructured to benefit some developing countries.

The 158-page report entitled *For a Common Future—A Study of Canada's Relations with Developing Countries* also assesses Canada's current trade, investment and aid relations with the Third World.

In the area of trade, the Economic Council points out that many developing countries possess a present or potential comparative advantage in the production of goods that are labor-intensive and based on standard technology. The council recommends that Canada encourage the emergence of industrial capability in these nations through appropriate trade and investment policies.

One of the major recommendations of this advisory body to government, composed of academics and members of the business community, is that the federal government establish a fund of \$4 billion devoted to a wide-ranging program of industrial reorganization within Canada that would benefit developing countries.

This adjustment fund would form part of a two-stage strategy aimed at restructuring some of Canada's industrial sectors threatened by imports from developing countries. The affected Canadian industries would be textiles, hosiery, clothing, leather products, some subsectors in the electrical and electronic equipment industry, sporting goods and toys.

A second stage of this strategy proposes import barriers be lifted on these products. The aim would be to gradually liberalize trade with the Third World.

The council estimates 250,000 Canadian jobs in industry would be lost—130,000 of them in Quebec and 100,000 in Ontario—about 15 per cent of the

manufacturing labor force or 3 per cent of all Canadian jobs.

The council says that an average of \$16,000 per job created would be required to consolidate or replace the sectors threatened. The \$4 billion fund spread over 15 years would reorganize the industrial sector in Ontario and Quebec for the eventual benefit of both Canada and the affected developing countries.

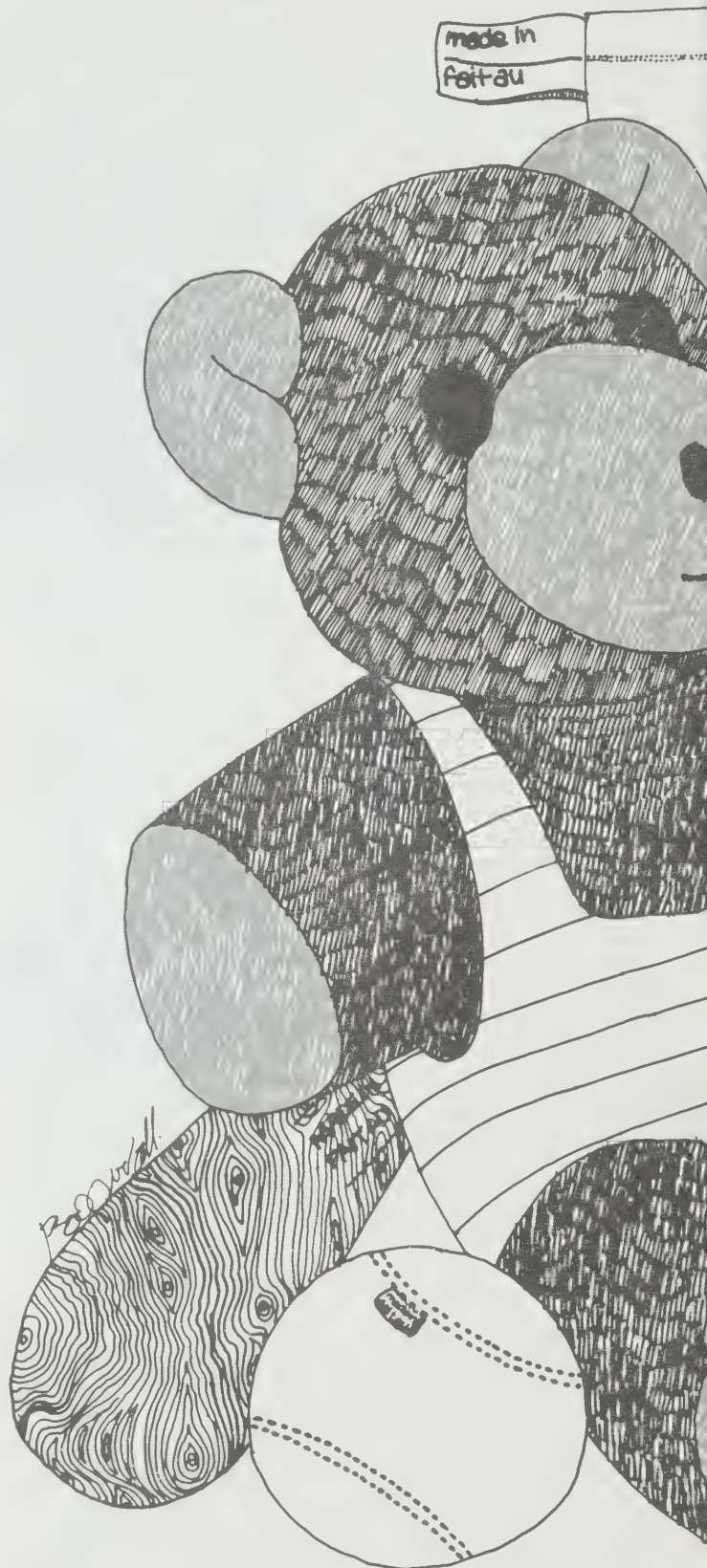
The council also points out, however, that the opening of Canada's markets to industrial products from developing countries would benefit only the richest among them. For the poorest countries, development aid would remain the only form of assistance Canada could provide.

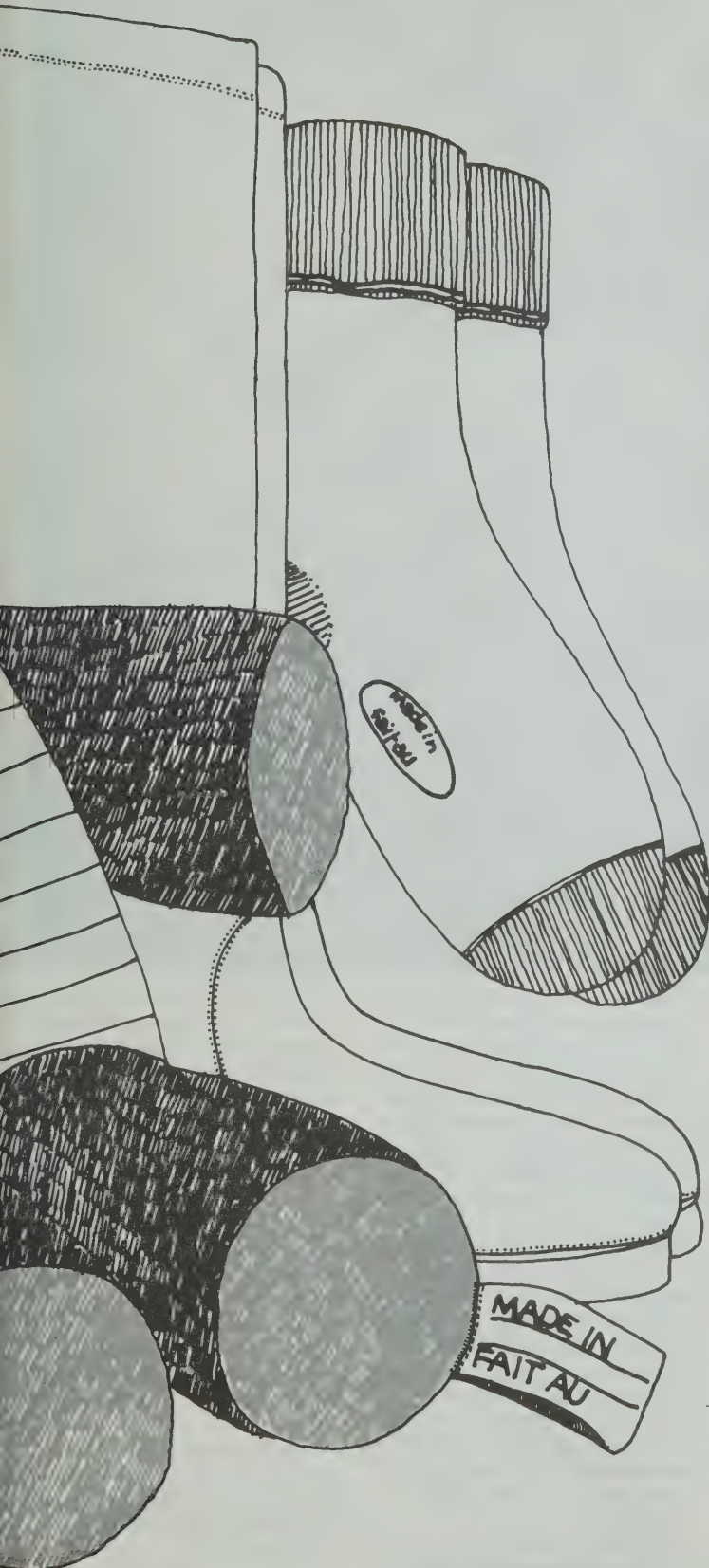
The council recommends that Canada concentrate more of its aid budget on bilateral programs and reduce to 35 per cent the share of public funds going to multilateral non-food aid programs.

The council notes that Canada devoted an important share—43.2 per cent in 1976-77—to multilateral bodies. The council is not, however, convinced that organizations such as the UN general fund and development banks use Canadian resources in the best manner compared with development activities Canada could itself carry out.

The economic council also believes that the Canadian government should establish a system for controlling the efficiency of aid in each of the 30 developing countries that become recipients and that an evaluation be carried out at least every five years.

The council says that tied aid (now 85 per cent of all Canada's bilateral aid) which requires the recipient country to obtain goods and equipment from Canadian sources is inefficient, and concludes that lowering the proportion of tied aid in all bilateral programs from 85 per cent to 40 per cent would have no detrimental effect on Canada's balance of payments. [See article on tied aid, p. 12]





In order to ensure a gradual growth of development aid, the council recommends the volume of Canadian assistance to developing countries never fall below 0.5 per cent of Canada's gross national product throughout the duration of the recommended industrial reorganization program.

The report also touches on the issues of immigration to Canada of people from developing countries, the impact of Canadian investment in developing countries and the effect of increasing costs of energy to both developing and developed countries.

In summary, the council recommends that:

- the federal government establish, with affected provinces, an industrial adjustment and redeployment fund and a comprehensive joint regional development strategy in order to shift Canada's industrial structure away from highly protected, labor-intensive and standard-technology activities in favor of imports from Third World countries; the fund should be fixed at \$4 billion and be spread over approximately 15 years;
- Canada's system of special quotas and other restraints on the import of manufactured goods be progressively dismantled over a period of approximately 10 years when economic conditions in Canada improve;
- Canada use the multilateral trade negotiation system to rationalize its own tariff structure, by reducing unusually high nominal tariffs to encourage the adjustment of highly protected industries vulnerable to developing-country competition;
- the rates of duty applicable under Canada's generalized system of preferences be halved in favor of developing countries whose national wealth and industrial capacity fall below an agreed-upon index;
- CIDA's Business and Industry Division, which supports pre-investment studies in developing countries, be transferred to the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce or the Export Development Corporation;
- Canada limit its share of aid allocated to multilateral institutions in order to facilitate the reorganization of the bilateral program, and multilateral non-food

aid constitute not more than 35 per cent of the total aid program;

- the total number of countries given aid by Canada on a bilateral basis be gradually reduced to about 30;

- Canada move progressively towards untying aid fully in respect of procurement in developing countries and that it allow procurement in other donor countries that would extend the same treatment to Canada;
- a system of aid-effectiveness monitoring be established for each of the 30 countries that would receive Canadian aid in the new bilateral program; the system would produce evaluations for each recipient country at least every five years;
- Canadian aid would not fall below 0.5 per cent of gross national product for the period from now until the end of the proposed adjustment and redeployment of industry program;
- the government finance the development of data related to ethnic adjustments in Canada and conduct studies to suggest ways to facilitate the adjustment of immigrants to Canada and foster racial harmony.

Although not a formal recommendation, the council suggests that Canada's aid efficiency could be improved either by allowing the External Affairs Department to have full authority for co-ordinating policies dealing with development relations or by creating a new department using CIDA as the core with responsibility for integrating all aspects of development assistance to the Third World.

The council's members are government appointed and their research is government funded. Until 1975, when it withdrew its members, the Canadian Labour Congress was also represented on the council. **DD**

The study, *For a Common Future: A Study of Canada's Relations with Developing Countries* published by the Economic Council of Canada is available by mail from: Supply and Services Canada, Hull, Quebec, Canada K1A 0S9 for \$4.75 in Canada and \$5.70 elsewhere.

Locusts threaten food supplies

Locusts can fly 17 hours non-stop. Migrations of 1,000- 3,000 miles between breedings are not uncommon.



photo: CUSO, Olaf Peters

The grain crops depended upon by millions of people in Ethiopia, Sudan, Somalia, Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda are threatened by one of the worst desert locust invasions in recent years.

Millions of desert locusts, breeding in Saudi Arabia, have swept across the Red Sea to the Horn of Africa and eastward to India. A one-mile-square swarm of the grasshopper-like insects can eat 14 tons of grain a day. Each insect can eat twice its own weight in a day.

The UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Desert Locust Control Organization of Eastern Africa (DLCOEA) are responding to the alert by keeping 10 planes on standby at Nairobi, Kenya, the aircraft maintenance base for the organization. The planes are used to locate

where the insects are breeding and swarming and to spray them with insecticide.

Two Beaver aircraft with spraying equipment provided to the locust control organization by CIDA in 1970 are part of the fleet.

In addition, the government of Saskatchewan has this year donated 100,000 gallons of insecticide worth \$1.2 million to help fight the pests. CIDA, through its Voluntary Agricultural Development Aid program, paid the \$350,000 shipping costs.

The British Ministry of Overseas Development has donated two Britten-Norman Islander aircraft worth £500,000. U.S. satellite photographs are being used to spot locust breeding grounds and locust movements. The photographs also help forecast where locusts could be breeding.

Adafri Bellehu, an Ethiopian who is director-general of DLCOEA, says locusts are the worst plague known to man since biblical times. Not only can a locust eat twice its own weight in a day, but each female lays 400 eggs and it takes only three months for a generation to breed.

The Somali and Sudanese infestations are the first locust swarms seen in Eastern Africa since 1969 when acute danger threatened East Africa, the Arabian Peninsula, Morocco, Egypt, Pakistan, India and Sudan. The FAO, after mounting a massive and costly campaign, managed to destroy about 85 per cent of the locusts in all areas where the insects were massing.

The worst plague in living memory was in the late 1950s and early 1960s when locusts

destroyed the livelihood of millions of Ethiopians, ate millions of dollars worth of citrus fruit in Morocco and devastated an Indian cotton crop. The largest known swarm ate 40,000 tons of grain in a day in Somalia in 1958.

The Desert Locust Control Organization of Eastern Africa has a budget of \$2 million contributed by donor countries. The organization, when not fighting a locust invasion helps with other crop pest controls such as the quelea quelea finches, banana blight, tsetse fly and army worm.

Canada, although not a supporting member of the locust control program, does make contributions to it, through CIDA, from time to time. **DD**

UN special session on disarmament makes recommendations

The special UN General Assembly on Disarmament has reaffirmed that disarmament and development go together like love and marriage. But after 40 days of intense negotiations, the 149-nation assembly still had to settle for a platonic romance rather than political wedding bells.

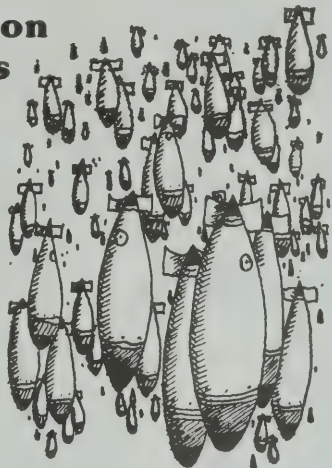
The final document, adopted by consensus (minus Albania) covers 129 paragraphs of agreed upon, though not compulsory, strategy on the uphill and rocky disarmament road. Nevertheless, only two paragraphs deal with the link between disarmament and development, although the principle is generally viewed as beyond any dispute.

The assembly, which concluded June 30, asked Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim to initiate yet another expert study on this relationship. He will be assisted by a group of qualified governmental experts who are expected to submit an interim report a year from now and a final report in 1981, in time for another special UN session on disarmament.

The experts were told to concentrate on three aspects of the problem: how disarmament can contribute to the establishment of a new international economic order; the desirability of a reallocation (following disarmament measures) of resources now being used for military purposes, to economic and social development, particularly in the Third World; and the "substantive feasibility" of such a reallocation.

The principle aim of the study, the as-yet-to-be-selected experts were told, should be to produce results that could "effectively guide the formulation of practical measures to reallocate those resources at the local, national, regional and international levels."

The disarmament negotiators failed to agree on more tangible proposals in this regard, however. One such proposal called for the establishment of an international disarmament fund for development. Another proposal which failed to receive a consensus



was much more ambitious. It called for a program which would allocate a substantial part of the resources released through proposed cuts in military budgets to nations which pay more attention to the needs of their publics than to national security.

Iran made a contribution which could not be turned down but which is yet to be followed by others. It allocated \$7.1 million (U.S.) from its defence budget for the 1979 International Year of the Child.

Dr. Waldheim, too, had an idea which was lightly applauded but not followed. At the beginning of the session, he said that all nations "should devote to national and international disarmament efforts \$1 million for every \$1 billion spent on arms." At the current rate, this would yield \$400 million (U.S.) worldwide.

By the time the next special session takes place in 1981, without negotiating breakthroughs and at current prices, it would bring \$600 million (U.S.) annually, experts predict.

During the general debate, speaker after speaker made the connection between disarmament and development. But several of the arms supplier countries, including the United States, pleaded with the poor nations to curb their hunger for modern and costly arms.

The assembly later implicitly rejected the argument of many Third World countries that disarmament is essentially an issue for the nuclear powers to solve. It recommended a comprehensive program based on parallel concern with nuclear and conventional arms by everybody.

DD

TCDC — a new approach to development

A breakthrough in opening new channels and methods for development co-operation is hoped for by delegates preparing to attend a three-week conference on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries (TCDC) in Buenos Aires beginning August 30.

"TCDC" is one of the newest phrases on the tongues of development experts. It means the sharing of expertise about development between two or more developing countries.

Delegates to the Buenos Aires conference will consider about 100 recommendations and proposals prepared in the course of regional intergovernmental meetings in Bangkok, Lima, Addis Ababa and Kuwait during the past two years.

The major document to be considered by the conference is a draft plan of action which contains concrete recommendations for making TCDC a new dimension of international co-operation for development.

Its four major objectives include: fostering the national self-reliance of developing countries; strengthening collective self-reliance among developing countries; assisting developing countries to negotiate for a new international economic order; and enhancing the effectiveness of international technical co-operation.

The process of TCDC involves developing countries jointly strengthening their analytical, institutional and negotiating capacity in order to achieve closer economic relations with each other.

It also means developing countries pooling their resources and expertise to achieve development benefits in such areas as technology, natural resources, investment and financial institutions, trade, and research.

Through these means, the developing countries hope to attain a larger share of the prosperity that development has brought the nations of the North.

Although it is recognized that resource flows from the North to the South have been necessary and will continue to be needed, it is also recognized that



these channels have failed to provide all the development assistance needed by the South.

It is hoped that TCDC will enable countries of the South to find joint solutions to common problems that are often unique to developing countries that cannot be solved by transferring technologies or systems from the North.

Veterans in the field of development are well aware that this logical and laudable objective will be hard to attain. Indeed, constraints on TCDC were identified by a special working group on TCDC in 1974 convened for that purpose.

They identified such barriers as a widespread communication and information gap, lack of adequate mechanisms to promote mutual co-operation, inadequate financial resources for TCDC, and an attitudinal barrier tending to favor traditional North-South technical assistance.

A major task of the conference is to suggest ways of overcoming these constraints and increasing the capacities of developing countries to undertake TCDC.

The conference is organized by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in collaboration with all organizations of the UN development system through a special inter-agency task force.

Representatives from all states have been invited in addition to specialized agencies and organizations of the United Nations, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations.

Canada is sending a delegation to the conference and participated in the preliminary meetings leading up to it. **DD**

THE DEBATE OVER UNTYING CANADA'S AID FUNDS

by Ben Malkin

"Few issues relating to international aid have attracted as much interest and controversy in Canada as the 'untying' of aid from the purchase of Canadian goods and services . . .

"Critics of aid programs point to tying probably more than to any other factor as an example of self-interestedness of 'donors' and for many it has become a cause of deep cynicism about aid in general. On the other hand, spokesmen for the business community and some others argue that there are substantial and essential benefits to Canada from aid tying. Defenders of Canadian tying also claim that, in fact, Canada has been more liberal than most donors in untying. In order not to endanger further competitiveness, they reason that the government should resist efforts to change the tied-aid program . . .

"There has been extensive study of the general effects of tying aid, demonstrating beyond dispute that tying results in substantial net losses of the real value of aid to recipients. In 1969, the Pearson Commission estimated that the direct cost of tying 'frequently exceeds 20 per cent' and a number of studies have been able to point to much higher costs."

These excerpts from the annual report of the North-South Institute published last fall summarize the position of critics who have argued that Canada's foreign aid program is at least partially a domestic aid program: by imposing a "buy Canadian" policy on a portion of our foreign aid, the government in effect uses some foreign aid funds to help sustain Canadian industry, and to that extent diminishes the program's effectiveness.

To be sure, "enlightened self-interest" has been the basic slogan of Canada's

foreign aid program since the start of the Colombo Plan in 1950. But Canada's self-interest referred originally to a world made more peaceful, more stable, through economic progress and rising living standards in the underdeveloped countries. Is that kind of self-interest defeated if, in addition, some of the foreign aid program is used directly to improve living standards in Canada?

Yet Canada hasn't all that much to be ashamed of. If the industrialized nations were to muster in one room and ask, "Mirror, mirror on the wall, who is purest of them all," the Scandinavian countries, Australia, and West Germany would come off cleanest, with more than 75 per cent of their aid claimed as untied. But Canada doesn't come off too badly, and its practice is improving.

The untied portion of Canadian aid rose steadily from 39 per cent in 1975 to 51 per cent in 1976, with preliminary figures indicating a slight increase in 1977. The total untied portion of the aid flow from the member states of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development in 1977 was 48.3 per cent.

Moreover, our untied aid has no hidden strings attached. Some countries, with a good record on paper, use certain incentives which effectively tie their grants or loans to products and technology produced by them, while giving the appearance of offering untied aid. For instance, a recipient country getting a grant or loan would be free to shop around for the best buy it can get; but if it buys in the donor country, the offer might be increased.

Or economic development aid might be untied, but strategic aid would be tied. However, the definition of "strategic" might be stretched to include almost everything — roads, air terminals, even food.

As far as is known, Canada doesn't practise these tricks of the trade. A study of tied aid, done two years ago by Treasury Board, may reveal a different situation. The study is still unpublished, but it is understood that it contains no such revelations; until proved otherwise, Canada can say, without being sanctimonious about it, that its figures on untied aid represent the real situation.

Nor is it certain that untied aid is always advantageous to the recipient countries. Bernard Wood, executive director of the North-South Institute, said in an interview that "complete untying is the long-distance goal." But he agreed that "we need bilateral programs (which is where aid is tied) to sell foreign aid." The relative advantages of bilateral aid (direct country-to-country assistance) and multilateral aid (through international institutions) are dealt with in a report released recently by the Economic Council of Canada [See sidebar, p. 14]

To put Mr. Wood's statement in another way, there's a domestic political problem, and it concerns the recipient countries as much as the donor. This issue was raised by one CIDA official who pointed out that aid is tied for political reasons. In an imperfect world, the program has to be "sold," and the jobs created in Canada constitute one of the selling points. If the foreign aid program became politically untenable within Canada, the developing countries would hardly gain.

A further consideration is the long-term goal of the developing countries. Besides the target of immediate economic development, Mr. Dupuy agrees they want to establish an economic relationship with Canada that would continue into the future. The official from a developing country interviewed for this article stressed the same point. To reach this goal involves contacts with and



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knowledge of our technical services, our commodities, and of course an opportunity to export to us, as well as to buy.

Meanwhile, Canadian and developing country officials agree that it's not money itself the developing countries want, that being only a means to an end. In addition to fashioning an economic relationship with Canada, they want completed development projects. If Canada and a particular developing country decide that country needs an air terminal, or food storage facilities, or equipment with which to drill wells, that becomes the project. In such instances, the aid becomes tied to the project itself, rather than to the money for the project.

It's a subtle difference, perhaps, but a difference nonetheless. True, the result is a form of tied aid, but that doesn't make the developing country a loser. Even if it shopped around, all it would still get is the project. If any money is saved, Canada would be the beneficiary, while for the recipient country much time may have been lost in the complex world of global tendering.

The trend nevertheless is toward increasing the amount of untied aid. In the whole bilateral program, 20 per cent can now be untied. As an important part of the trend toward untying and one which hasn't been pursued sufficiently,

an attempt should be made to raise the amount of help, through Canadian funding, that developing countries can give to other developing countries. Let the recipient use Canadian financing to buy from another developing country the services and goods it wants for a particular project.

If that kind of program could be expanded, a double purpose would be served. Like an amoeba engaged in procreation, the same grant would split in two, with a pair of developing countries benefiting instead of one.

How practical is this policy? An official at CIDA said he thinks that in each region there are a few countries that could handle some development work. In Latin America, for example, Mexico and Brazil come to mind. In Asia, several countries are capable of supplying some goods and services, provided they are financed.

Indeed, when the Colombo Plan was expanded beyond the Asian Commonwealth countries about 20 years ago, help given by some developing countries to others in the region was an important goal, which has been pursued since the early '60s. A developing country official told me that some Colombo Plan nations are now becoming industrialized rapidly enough to provide such help, especially in research projects.

This view is corroborated, at least in part, by Ivan Head. He points to a rice-growing research project in the Philippines which is funded by Canada but which is being carried out by Malaysia. Where Canada can't provide the expertise, such cross-pollination on the research scene is a sensible course if the best use is to be made of the Canadian dollar.

Moreover, is the effectiveness of our foreign aid program reduced by the tied proportion? Perhaps, but not necessarily. Michel Dupuy, president of CIDA, insists that tied aid is not intended to subsidize inefficient Canadian industries. The goods and services are supplied on a competitive basis. Mr. Dupuy says this is how it's done:

1. "Always to procure in Canada on a competitive basis; that's a government rule.

2. "To choose in developing countries sectors for a Canadian contribution where we have a high level of competence and where we're competitive.

"Ultimately," he says, "our ability to make maximum use of the Canadian aid dollar in Canada is dependent on the quality of competitiveness of the Canadian economy."

There's further reason to find tied aid not too unsettling a policy. Ivan Head,

Economic Council's views on tied and multilateral aid

In a report on Canada's foreign aid program, the Economic Council of Canada endorses the view that, as a long-term goal, aid should be untied. But the council also argues against the trend toward a higher proportion of multilateral aid, which is largely untied. In its report, entitled "For a Common Future," the council says:

"What are the relative advantages of multilateral and bilateral aid? The notion sometimes expressed that multilateral aid is less political and therefore more developmental in its orientation than bilateral aid, strikes us as unsound. Essentially, when Canada contributes to either the World Bank Group or the Asian Development Bank, it relinquishes control over aid resources to the DAC (Development Assistance Committee of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development) powers; when it contributes to the other regional banks, its contributions are also overseen by these countries and by the more powerful developing nations. Contributions through the U.N. institutions are perhaps under greater control by the developing countries, but again the countries that exercise control over

these funds are not necessarily those that Canada wishes to help the most. We are not convinced that multilateral organizations direct Canadian resources to greater development advantages than could the Canadian authorities . . . The past rapid growth of Canada's multilateral aid may have resulted as much from difficulties associated with disbursing bilateral aid as from careful scrutiny of the relative merits of this channel for aid . . .

"Existing policy is to restrict multilateral aid (excluding any food aid component) so that it constitutes no more than 35 per cent of nonfood aid. This restriction was exceeded by a considerable margin in the 1976-77 fiscal year, during which multilateral aid constituted about 45 per cent of the aid program, excluding food."

The council then recommends that "to ensure that multilateral aid is allocated on the basis of merit rather than disbursement ease, the government continue its present policy of limiting the share of the total aid program allocated to multilateral institutions. It is recommended, however, that this policy be

modified to state that multilateral non-food aid shall not constitute more than 35 per cent of the total aid program (including food aid)."

These questions are raised: Does Canada indeed lose much of its control over its foreign aid goal (which is to help create a more stable, more peaceful world) when it channels aid through multilateral agencies, instead of bilaterally? Has Canada indeed increased its multilateral contributions because it's easier to disburse the foreign aid appropriations that way? The questions deserve an answer.

Also, the apparent contradiction in the council's recommendation should be resolved. By suggesting a ceiling of 35 per cent of the total foreign aid program, instead of the present ceiling of 35 per cent of the nonfood program, the council is actually proposing that a larger amount of dollars be put into multilateral agencies.

[A summary of the report's recommendations appears on p. 8]DD

president of the International Development Research Centre, argues that where we can offer a package of technological expertise and goods, it's to the developing country's advantage to accept, rather than to tender on a world-wide basis.

Mr. Dupuy agrees. "Tendering is a very difficult and time-consuming affair," he points out. One official from a developing country with whom I spoke tended to confirm this view. As well, he had some sympathy with Canada's political need to use some of the foreign aid funds within Canada. The problem as he saw it was to reconcile that political need with the economic needs of the developing countries.

"It's in your interest," he suggested, "to get as much of the work done within Canada as possible. It's in our interest to get the most out of the grant, in the way of goods and services.

"The best way to reconcile these two concerns is to make decisions on a project-by-project basis. Where you can

. . .if the recipient doesn't like the Canadian terms, he can always go to another donor

supply the goods and services on a competitive basis, the aid could be tied. Where you can't, it should be untied."

That pragmatic view fits pretty well with the opinions expressed by Mr. Dupuy and Mr. Head and, judging by the trend toward more multilateral aid, and the insistence on Canadian competitiveness where aid is tied, it represents the view of the Canadian government. Moreover, if the recipient doesn't like the Canadian terms, he can always go to another donor.

And despite its image as greedy for foreign aid contracts, Canadian industry shares that view. A spokesman for the Canadian Manufacturers' Association told me:

"There is no case for using foreign aid grants to keep inefficient industry going. Our foreign aid program is there to help the developing countries. Any foreign aid contracts our businessmen get should be strictly competitive."

He did suggest that communication between industry on the one hand, and CIDA and the department of industry, trade and commerce on the other, could be improved to make Canadian industry more aware of multilateral agency tenders that were being let out. Some of the larger companies with experience in

the field are plugged into multilateral programs, but there is room for improvement among the smaller industries, he said. However, this is an administrative problem, not one of principle.

Mr. Head points to India, which today has the third largest scientific establishment in the world, as a developing country capable of transferring technology to other states in the region. If Canada provides the funding, there can be no objection here on political or eco-

There is no case for using foreign aid grants to keep inefficient industry going.

nomic grounds. The kind of technology provided is of a sort we can't offer ourselves, at least not as effectively; and even if in some cases we could, that factor is outweighed by the help given to developing countries to strengthen their technological base to the point where they become donors of technology.

Where the developing countries feel they could do better with untied aid is in the purchase of commodities. Yet even here, if we think the matter through, the effect of untied aid may sometimes be more psychological than economic.

Suppose Canada and a developing country decide in a bilateral deal that the latter needs 100,000 tons of pulpwood. The cost would be, say, \$30 million. The developing country objects that it can get the pulpwood more cheaply from a European supplier. Canada could say, all right, do that, but get the European financier to finance it.

If the original target is maintained, the developing country still gets only the 100,000 tons of pulpwood. The gain to the developing country, therefore, has been psychological rather than economic.

There may be cases where Canada and the recipient country could both benefit from untying aid for the purchase of commodities. But few, if any, would likely emerge in bilateral transactions. The best way to untie commodity aid would be through multilateral agencies. Canada should give closer consideration to doing this.

Concessional loans instead of outright grants should also be considered an avenue of untied aid because, in theory at least, loans will eventually be repaid. In this instance, it's the money, not the goods that's wanted by the recipient as

a starter. Since the money will be repaid, the borrower should be entitled to buy what he thinks he needs in the world's marketplace.

The issue of tied aid therefore breaks down as follows:

- There is general agreement within Canada that, in principle, aid should be untied as extensively as possible.
- There is general agreement that developing countries should be helped to help other developing countries with technology and goods.
- The best way to untie aid is through multilateral agencies, especially with respect to commodities. When that's done, it stands to reason that everybody gains, including those countries which contribute to the financing, but don't always get the contract. Their financial contribution would go farther, and multilateral purchases could help stabilize world commodity markets.
- Some bilateral aid projects will continue to be desirable, with the aid tied

. . .the effect of untied aid may sometimes be more psychological than economic

to the project itself. We would provide a package that includes technology and materials for a completed project. But if tying would increase costs and implementation time immoderately, the grant should be untied.

Rather than a global and perhaps doctrinaire solution to the issue, both Canada and the developing countries should seek a project-by-project solution to the problem of untied bilateral aid. Where we can handle the project efficiently and competitively, the grant could be tied to Canadian suppliers and consultants; where we can't, it shouldn't.

Above all, the principle that foreign aid should be used to develop the economies of the Third World rather than to develop new industries or sustain inefficient old ones in Canada should never be lost to sight. **DD**

Ben Malkin is an Ottawa freelance writer. He is a former editorial writer for the *Ottawa Citizen*.

Tied Aid: the case for and against in a Canadian context

for



against



The current situation

Multilateral aid — Canadian multilateral aid is untied with the exception of multilateral food aid.

Bilateral aid — Up to 20 per cent of the dollar value of the bilateral program may be untied.

According to figures provisionally submitted to the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) as part of Canada's annual aid review exercise, 52 per cent of Canadian aid was estimated to be untied in 1977. The breakdown was estimated as follows:

What is tied aid?

assistance provided on the condition that goods and services will be supplied only by suppliers in the donor country

What is meant by "untying" aid?

partial untying means allowing suppliers

Proponents of tied aid claim that it helps protect balance of payments and employment in Canada;

Some individual Canadian suppliers who traditionally obtain aid-financed orders (e.g. locomotive manufacturers) might be caused short-term problems if Canada were to untie its aid;

Where Canadian goods and services supplied under tied aid are not competitive, the terms under which such aid is provided may be sufficiently concessional to make the overall deal attractive;

Politically-powerful domestic groups such as exporters' associations allege potential losses of orders leading to layoffs, if aid is untied;

If all or most other donors continue to tie their aid (which is the case, to varying degrees), Canada cannot be expected to step out of line;

Strictly speaking, untied aid maximizes the real value of the aid by allowing the recipient to procure goods and services from the cheapest available source;

Goods and services supplied under tied aid can cost from 15 to 30 per cent more than similar goods and services offered on the international market;

The Economic Council of Canada says that halving the present amount of tied bilateral aid would not have a "noticeable" impact on Canada's balance of payments, besides reducing manufacturing employment and output in Canada by only about 0.2 per cent;

Tied aid reinforces the tendency to provide goods and services that are technologically inappropriate, besides discouraging local solutions using local resources;

in all or a number of developing countries to compete against suppliers in the donor country for aid-financed orders

full untying extends the opportunity to compete to suppliers in other developed countries as well

Tied aid can lead to more visibly Canadian projects in the Third World, which can generate support of aid by itinerant Canadian politicians and taxpayers;

Tied aid is an opportunity to introduce goods and services into new markets;

Canada has none of the colonial or historical links that give other donors a head start in untied commercial transactions with developing countries;

In some areas of the world, tied Canadian aid may also confer an indirect commercial benefit on recipients — it may oblige suppliers in traditional donor countries to reduce their prices to meet the Canadian 'competition';

Untying can place a considerable burden both on recipients (not to mention the increased risk of corruption and other distortions) and on donors (to ensure that recipients can and do call tenders efficiently).

Political advantages may be obtained from increased untying in terms of an enhanced international image, primarily in the eyes of the majority of the world's nations i.e. the developing countries;

There is no evidence that tied aid has led to significant repeat orders — "one-off" orders (not leading to repeat business) may in fact be detrimental to Canada's reputation if suppliers are not interested in after-sales service;

Untying can help to speed up the training of officials in developing countries capable of negotiating international tenders and procurement;

Rigid adherence to tying regulations has been known to double the implementation time (as well as costs) of projects.

| | Total (a) (\$million) | Untied (b) (\$million) | (b) as per cent of (a) |
|------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| bilateral aid | 479.0 | 77.2 | 16 |
| multilateral aid | 517.2 | 436.7 | 84 |
| | 996.2 | 513.9 | 52 |

The international situation

The latest available statistics from DAC indicate that the "best" performers in 1976 in respect of untying were Australia, Germany, Norway and Sweden (not to mention OPEC donors, usually totally untied). Only Belgium and Finland kept as large or a larger portion of aid disbursements fully tied than did

Canada; however, France, Japan, Britain and the United States performed almost as "poorly" as Canada. Canada's performance showed a slight improvement in 1977.

Discussions on untying have taken place in the DAC forum and elsewhere almost continuously since 1970. Following relatively rapid agreement in 1973 on the untying of multilateral aid, much less progress has been made in respect of untying bilateral aid. DD



UN WRITING A CODE OF CONDUCT FOR TRANSNATIONALS

by Jeff Endrst

The love-hate relationship between transnational corporations (TNC) and the developing countries is posing a major challenge to experts trying to write a code of conduct which both sides can live with and profit from.

A 48-nation working group of the UN Commission on Transnational Corporations met in New York in March in its fourth attempt to narrow down considerable differences between TNC "home" and "host" countries on almost every aspect of a very complex but unavoidable form of international co-operation which is vital to Third World development hopes.

Even the proposed coverage of the code is major bone of contention. The developing countries want TNCs regulated. At the same time, they are resisting efforts to write anything into the code which could circumscribe their own national sovereignty and laws.

It is generally recognized by both sides that the code will have to be voluntary if it has a chance of being completed at all. The code may turn out to be less comprehensive than many of the developing countries would want

it. There are simply many areas of disagreement which stem from divergent philosophical views on such crucial matters as a proposed international economic order, or political and moral responsibility of the industrialized countries for past social and economic neglect of the "have-nots."

But whatever the obstacles in writing such a code of conduct, the United Nations recognizes that the power, know-how and expertise of some 15,000 transnational corporations remains absolutely essential to Third World development goals.

The dilemma for the UN is that in the process of building up countries, some giant TNCs sometimes come close to running them. This was the emotional cry of the late President Salvador Allende of Chile to a receptive UN majority a year before his Marxist government was toppled in a military coup. Allende's political indictment of the International Telephone and Telegraph (ITT) corporation as a meddler into Chile's internal affairs did not necessarily constitute a typical or balanced picture of TNC activity in Third World countries. But it proved to be a major stimulant to UN efforts to come to grips with growing complaints by the

developing countries that TNC activities are not always synonymous with the best interests of those who invite them in for necessary business reasons.

The relevance of the TNCs to international trade and development is beyond dispute. The western TNCs command between 60,000 and 70,000 affiliates in foreign countries. Their combined book value is about \$200 billion. They have maintained a strong, global market position by applying profit-oriented corporate standards to countries which by the year 2,000 hope to be responsible for 25 per cent of the world's industrial output. Their present output represents 7 per cent of the total.

Canada is among a growing number of countries which are both "home" and "host" bases to transnational corporations. Foreign corporate investment in Canada now stands at about \$44 billion. Canadian corporations have about \$12 billion working for them abroad.

Canada therefore knows the concerns of "host" countries with too much foreign capital dominating some of their economic branches. Sixty per cent of Canada's manufacturing industry is owned by outside capital. In

oil and natural gas, foreign TNCs control 75 per cent of the Canadian output. It is 57 per cent in the mining and smelting industry. But Canadian control over mining industries in some foreign countries is also considerable. This fact makes Canada conscious of some of the concerns of the TNCs in trying to help the developing countries fulfill their economic aspirations without going under in the process.

These conflicting attitudes are reflected in debates in the committee of experts trying to write a code of conduct designed to overcome some of the existing inequities and injustices.

Among the issues are the observance of national laws by TNCs, their adherence to economic and socio-cultural objectives, their respect for human rights, their non-interference in internal political affairs and inter-governmental relations, and their abstention from corrupt practices.

In the economic, financial and social area the list mentions such subjects as ownership and control, financing, taxation, restrictive business practices, employment and labor, consumer and environmental protection, and disclosure of information on the activities of TNCs. Also included are the topics of governments' treatment of transnationals, and the question of nationalization and compensation.

The discussions in the committee so far have produced several predictable trends. Countries from which most of the TNCs operate strongly stressed that transnationals should be treated by governments equitably and without discrimination, in accordance with contracts to which they have subscribed, and within international law. This is viewed as particularly important in relation to the right of states to nationalization, and the accompanying provision of compensation. While fully recognizing the right of any country to nationalize foreign businesses, the western countries at the same time want the developing countries to accept the right of the "home" countries of TNCs involved in such litigation to protect the interest of such companies, their shareholders and other nationals.

The counter-argument of the "have-nots" is based on the principle of national sovereignty — the permanent sovereignty over natural resources, the primacy of domestic laws and jurisdiction of domestic courts as fundamental in formulating a code of conduct.

The experts soon discovered that there is a lack of "compatible" legal systems between "home" and "host"



Transnational corporations often exploit natural resources and labor with little concern for the developing country or its people photo: UN.

countries in many cases. Further discussion revealed that the "have-not" countries are interested in a code of conduct which would cover not only economic and political objectives, but would also deal in human and social goals as seen by the economically disadvantaged countries.

The United States, indisputably the largest "home" country to the most powerful TNCs, pleaded for balance in a code which would give equal weight to positive and negative aspects of TNC activities as viewed by the recipient countries. The Soviet Union immediately argued that the mandate of the committee was to correct alleged abuses of transnational corporations, not to praise them. The elusive middle ground between these two positions sums up the problem at hand: how to stimulate economic growth in the developing countries and at the same time curb the activities of the transnationals.

The same problem popped up during discussions of the right of a country to nationalize and the right of a TNC to be adequately compensated.

Canada said without hesitation that it was concerned with the problem of restrictive business practices and taxation because of its heavy foreign investment. It suggested that North-South interdependence in this area requires efforts to fill gaps in existing international law.

Canadian representative Terry Colli told the code-writing committee that "Canada would have serious difficulties with the concept of full permanent sovereignty over economic activities if

it remained unqualified," as it was in the present stage of drafting efforts.

The United States agreed that "national sovereignty" was not debatable. But it argued that this principle could not be separated from the question of compensation. In other words, the U.S. argued, what does "sovereignty mean when applied to nationalization or taxation?

Conversely, the western countries had no argument with the demand that transnational corporations had to abide by the laws of the countries in which they operated. However, they insisted that such laws should be clear and should be applied "predictably and without discrimination."

The unresolved argument between the "haves" and the "have-nots" is not whether a "host" country has the right to regulate the activities of a TNC. The problem is how to enforce that jurisdiction should be exclusive. Others insist that there is room for the application of international law.

The committee also held a discussion on the responsiveness of TNCs to government measures to deal with short-term national problems. The real meaning of the language is that Third World countries should have the right to renegotiate existing contracts with TNCs when they feel that the circumstances in their national or regional economic planning have changed.

The United States, supported by other western countries, immediately responded with the argument that the TNCs could not be expected to go out of business as a result of the objectives of the proposed code. West Germany argued that sometimes economic goals prove unrealistic and when a transnational corporation says as much, it could not be charged with sabotage or subversion of a country's development objective.

The Netherlands reminded the "have-nots" that local regulations regarding the conduct of TNCs in effect constitute an investment climate. Without clarity in the investment climate, the TNCs have a right to expect to be compensated for a high risk in profitability.

The United States, Canada and Britain agreed that contracts negotiated between TNCs and former colonial regimes in Third World countries should be renegotiated. But they felt it was a "bad principle" to renegotiate contracts between TNCs and independent governments. They felt that particularly in such capital-intensive industries as mining and petroleum, the contracts must be adhered to. Otherwise, among

other things, financing arrangements with banks would be upset.

But the developing countries generally feel "that renegotiation or "reconstruction" of a contract is part of a developing process. They pointed out in the recent committee debate that a considerable number of "unequal" contracts had been renegotiated in recent years, proving that their approach to this problem is well-taken.

UN experts had quite a bit of discussion on the meaning of "adherence to economic goals and development objectives, policies and priorities, as well as adherence to socio-cultural objectives and values, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, and non-interference in internal political affairs."

Translated into practical language, this is known as "the Coca-Cola clause." It means that TNCs should not introduce any alien elements in a "host" country which might adversely affect its cultural identity.

The United States bluntly said that each "host" country must make the necessary determination before letting a TNC come in. In other words, if cultural drawbacks of a TNC presence outweigh its economic impact on the "host" country, the best defense against it is to keep it out.

But Japan reminded all concerned that modernization itself produces "alien elements." Large industrialization in an economically backward country inevitably involves the presence of many foreign technicians. Do they constitute an "alien element?"

Does a TNC interfere in the domestic affairs of a country by replying in the local press, radio or television to attacks by the local press? Canada urged that TNCs should not be isolated from the cultural process inside a "host" country. It said TNCs should be allowed to "inter-act with the local government and not be prohibited from activity that might help to formulate legislation."

The committee was reminded that there are cases in which a TNC wants to stay out of local politics but employees in the "host" country want to get involved. Should the TNC stay out of the politics of the "host" country or should it respect the human rights of its employees in that country? And what about TNC shareholders? If they are nationals of the "host" country and they ask pertinent questions about their TNC activities, do the answers constitute interference in local politics?

If a TNC gathers economic information in a country in which it operates, is it engaging in intelligence gathering on behalf of the "home" government or is it simply defending its economic interests in the "host" country? If a TNC wants to provide such information to its "home" government, how could that government refuse to listen? That does not mean that the government in question would necessarily follow a TNC's advice. Then again, in case of a legal claim against a host country, the home government of a TNC might need to intervene due to its own domestic law, and to do that it would need pertinent information from the TNC involved. The United States served notice in the committee that it could not agree to a code that would not allow its citizens some recourse to the laws of the United States.

The developing countries have made the argument that TNCs should make a contribution to their balance of payments. Several western countries agreed with this concept but only on condition that it is consistent with sound commercial practices. But West Germany said that TNCs could not be made responsible for developments that resulted from political decisions taken by the "home" and "host" countries. Canada also felt that the issue of jurisdiction was important. "Responsibility should not be shifted to transnational corporations for solving the problems associated with a country's balance of payments. That is a responsibility of governments, and it requires inter-governmental co-operation," Mr. Colli told the committee.

Mexico came up with an innovative argument regarding the transfer of technology. It argued that the transfer of technology and patents had become a matter of "public policy" in many states, and could no longer be considered part of a "private contract."

There are many other obvious or hidden problems in trying to streamline the interests of the developing countries and transnational corporations.

About half of all foreign investment is in natural resources. It so happens that TNCs control a substantial share of the trade in these goods. The TNCs are the chief suppliers of such raw materials to the industrial countries. They command a large degree of control of this business in the developing countries, including capitalization and management.

But it is exactly this type of power which appears increasingly incongruous with the ongoing battle in the UN for international equity in trade and the division of labor. Nevertheless, TNCs

are on occasion resented and other times wooed for their effectiveness in dealing with global economic problems. This gives them a bargaining power which the developing countries lack, individually and sometimes even collectively.

The "host" countries are increasingly conscious of the fact that TNCs can increase their exports, level of technology, employment and managerial skills. But they can also undermine governmental priorities, fiscal and monetary policies, cultural values, and ultimately, some charge, TNCs can influence the entire pattern and orientation of a country's development and direction.

The concentration of know-how in the hands of TNCs is also considered to be a serious impediment to Third World development. Patent laws are viewed as monopoly control by the have-nots. They argue that much of their export earnings goes towards expensive technology.

Confidentiality of proprietary information often stands in the way of easy access to needed technology. Some restrictions are written into contracts to protect TNC ownership against competitors. Other restrictions may relate to the national security of the TNC's "home" government.

There is recognition by both sides that new measures are needed to tackle the problem of corrupt practices by TNCs. National and international efforts are under way to fight illicit payments to government officials in developing countries for contract favors or advantage. But "corrupt practices" also covers restrictive business practices, unfair competition, double accounting, fraudulent pricing and tax evasion. Then there are political contributions, gifts, loans, fees and commissions. The UN has yet to figure out who in this respect should disclose what, to whom, when and how.

There are few optimists at the UN who see these sporadic negotiations moving towards a corporate code of conduct this year or next. It is generally agreed that as long as there is nobody else to do the job better and cheaper, the TNCs will stay in business predicated on the age-old proposition that even by trying to help others, they must make money.

The unanswered question is: how much is really fair and adequate?

DD

Jeff Endrst is a journalist based at the United Nations in New York who specializes in international issues and Third World development.

AERIAL SURVEY AIDS DEVELOPMENT IN NEPAL



by Sue Morrow Lockwood

A small white jet with a red maple leaf on its tail was cruising at 25,000 feet, paralleling the Himalayas above the tiny kingdom of Nepal.

"The plane can reach 28,000 feet altitude in six minutes from take-off," Lear Jet pilot Terry De Visser of Calgary said proudly.

"We cover the 88 miles from Kathmandu east to Pokhara in 15 minutes and the full 525-mile length of Nepal in 50 minutes."

The sleek, high-performance jet, along with two piston-engine planes — an Aero Commander and a Piper Aztec — and 12 Canadian pilots and photographers, constitute the first phase of a \$4.5 million, CIDA-sponsored land resources mapping project for Nepal's remote Far West Region, the least developed part of one of the world's least developed countries.

Two Canadian companies — Capital Air Surveys of Pembroke, Ontario and Photosur Incorporated of Montreal — carried out the first half of the air photography last winter.

Landlocked Nepal, long called the "forbidden kingdom," was closed to foreigners until 1951. Today, it is scrambling to catch up with the 20th century. Nepal, which contains eight of the world's 10 highest mountains, is one-fifth the size of Alberta and is struggling to meet the needs of its 13 million people. Every square foot of its limited land area, no matter how steep the slope or how thin the soil, is precious.

For generations, the same depleted, rocky soil has been tilled and retilled. Now, the mountainous terrain and unimaginable amounts of monsoon rainfall and deforestation have combined disastrously to create one of the world's

worst erosion problems. Among Nepal's many competing development priorities, adequate land-use maps are a vital first step toward sound planning for the country's future.

Installed in the Lear Jet's doorway, a \$90,000 Zeiss camera shoots nine-inch-square negatives, each covering 36 square miles on a scale of 1:20,000. Later, a ground survey team will take to the hills on foot to pinpoint four accurate altitude references for each of the hundreds of overlapping photos.

Next year, seven Canadian experts — including a forester, an economist, a cartographer and two soil geomorphologists (analysts) — will arrive for two years' work based on the aerial photos.

The final product, four maps — of land systems, land capability, land use, and climatology — will help Nepal shape its future development efforts in the Far West. Planning of settlements, prevention of soil erosion, identification of potential landslides, and discovery of new, fertile land for agricultural development are a few of the potential benefits.

Additional aerial photographs on a 1:50,000 scale covering other areas of Nepal will be used by the government topographical survey branch, which also will gain expensive mapping and photography lab equipment and six newly-trained Nepalese photo laboratory assistants as a result of the project.

In Nepal, the monsoon rains leave in October and return in February. The Canadians — among them chief pilot Frank Styger, a native of Nova Scotia, air operations manager Paul Smith of Petawawa, Ontario, and ground operations manager Marcel Lavoie of Montreal — were on the job from November 1 to February 3, working from one runway of the Kathmandu airport.

The only frustrating part of the assignment was the early morning ground fog, which lingers in the valleys until 10:00 and later forms into clouds. "The whole operation is dependent on the weather," says Paul Smith. "On a previous project, we were able to photograph all of Bangladesh in five weeks using only two planes, because of the very different conditions over flat land." Flying and living in Nepal presented no special hazards or problems, except that most of the Canadians caught bad colds in the cooler-than-expected mountain air. They found their Nepalese counterparts to be "keen, willing to learn and to work long hours," and are enthusiastic about the country itself and its "friendly, honest, sincere, hard-working people."

One of Nepal's main goals is to spread the benefits of development among all its regions. The isolated Far West Region is a focal point for Canada's co-operation with Nepal. It is not only the area most closely covered in the air-mapping project, but also the site of a significant rural health program financed by CIDA.

At Surkhet, the town chosen by Nepal as the centre for this region's development, auxiliary health workers (paramedics) are being trained to provide basic public health services and treatment to the people of the countryside, partly through a string of village health stations that have just been completed.

The Far West Region is also linked to other parts of the rugged country, where land travel can take several weeks, by STOL (short take-off and landing) air service using Canadian Twin Otter aircraft provided by CIDA. DD

Sue Morrow Lockwood is a free-lance writer living in Nepal.

A Canadian aerial survey plane against the back-ground of the terraced slopes of Nepal.
photos: IDA, Capital Air Surveys.





WHY CANADIAN BUSINESS IS NOT GETTING MORE WORLD BANK CONTRACTS

by Jane Chudy

Government officials and businessmen alike are concerned about the failure of Canadian manufacturers to win a larger share of contracts financed through the World Bank.

The Bank, which is formally known as the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), extends loans at better than commercial rates for projects in developing countries. An affiliated body, the International Development Association (IDA), extends interest-free credits to the poorer countries.

From the start-up of the World Bank until June 1977, Canada had contributed

\$745 million in paid-up shares and subscriptions, but Canadian companies had procured only \$416 million of the contracts financed by the Bank.

Some may argue that awards to Bank participants should be measured by the material benefits to the recipient countries rather than to themselves. But the sad fact remains that Canada's shortfall of procurements to contributions (\$329 million to mid-1977) is larger than for any other member country, according to the World Bank's annual report for 1977.

Canada's procurements are proportionately even lower when compared with total Bank business made possible by its contributions. That is because the Bank borrows in world money markets using contributions from member countries as loan guarantees.

At June 30, 1977, the Bank had effective loans of \$27 billion versus paid-up capital of \$3.1 billion. That means that for each \$1 contribution from Canada (and from other members), approximately \$9 had been disbursed or committed as loans. Members agreed to underwrite an additional \$27 billion of capital if required, representing loan guarantees.

Canada's shortfall is especially worrisome when domestic unemployment is high. As one government official put it: "Conservative (in the financial sense) winds are blowing. Some argue we shouldn't invest unless we get a high rate of return."

Contributions to the World Bank are not the only ones vulnerable to criticism. Questions have been raised in Ottawa about how the \$1 billion disbursed annually by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) can better benefit Canadian industry. CIDA has increased its activity in multilateral projects, which set no minimums for Canadian content, at the expense of bilateral projects, which do. About half of its funds are spent in Canada.

A study into how Canada's foreign aid programs can better support Canadian industry was begun several months ago by the federal Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce (ITC) but has been shelved for other priorities.

The shortfall of procurements with the World Bank reflects poor success winning bids on the part of the manufacturing sector.

On the other hand, the service sector (primarily consultants, in this case) is doing well. The only countries getting more consultants' contracts are Britain, France and the United States.

Canada has contributed approximately 3 per cent of the IBRD's paid-up capital, and 5 per cent of the IDA's subscriptions (which are not levered with debt). It has procured less than 2 per cent of the Bank's total contracts, but close to 5 per cent of its consultancy contracts.

Unlike Canada, other countries are winning contracts in excess of their contri-



butions. Japan is the big winner, with a surplus of procurements over contributions in the period to mid-1977 of \$2 billion. Other winners include West Germany (\$1.7 billion), Britain (\$1 billion), Italy (\$919 million), France (\$666 million), Switzerland (\$662 million) and the United States (\$422 million).

For every dollar contributed, Japan has received \$3.16 in contracts, while the United States has got \$1.08. But Canada has received only 56 cents.

Why are Canadian businesses not winning more business? What can be done to improve Canada's performance? For that matter, what can be done to improve its generally disappointing trade with developing countries? The difficulties in securing World Bank contracts are just the tip of the iceberg. Canada accounts for only 2 per cent of trade between members of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and developing countries.

The first question — why is Canada not winning more business — evokes several responses.

The most frequent reply by parties involved is that Canadian companies do not submit bids frequently enough. The World Bank has no figures on the number of bids by different countries, but the Inter-American Development Bank does keep tabs, and its figures probably are comparable. In the 1976 calendar year, Canadian firms bid on nine of the

135 contracts tendered by the IDB, and of these won one.

A Canadian representative in Washington says that she sees a consultant a day who is wanting to develop foreign business. But she sees a manufacturer only once every month or so.

The list of Canadian manufacturers who have won Bank contracts is short, and includes: Champion Road Machinery, Westinghouse Canada, Canadian Marconi, Chemetics International Ltd., International Sulphur Co., and Consulex Ltd. The list of consultants includes: Montreal Engineering Co., Canadian Pacific Consulting Services Ltd., CANAC Consultants Ltd., Howe International Ltd., Lamarre Valois International, Swan Wooster Engineering Co. and Shawinigan Engineering Co.

There are several reasons for the few bids by manufacturers.

Firstly, many Canadian firms are subsidiaries with foreign parents, mainly American. It is often expected, if not explicitly written, that subsidiaries bid for contracts sponsored by CIDA or the Export Development Corporation (EDC); that is, contracts requiring Canadian content. But they should leave World Bank contracts and other multilateral contracts to the parent unless only the subsidiary makes the particular product required.

No companies are anxious to confess such a policy. But it is a fact of business life, especially now when jobs are

a politically sensitive issue worldwide.

Secondly, there is the familiar criticism that Canadian firms are not aggressive enough. One official at the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce complained that many have a poor marketing approach. He argued that they should make a commitment to develop a certain geographic market. They should then spend the funds required to promote the products, hire an agent to drum up business year round and a dealer to service the customers.

Bruno Lapaine, general sales manager of Champion Road Machinery, says good results are "a matter of establishing a dealership. Once the equipment is recognized to be as good or better than competitors', then you're in business. The Third World is always seeking offshore goods." Champion supplies road graders to developing countries. It has six regional managers in such areas. Mr. Lapaine considers a fluency in many languages to be an important asset. (He speaks five.) He also advises to "get away from the American style of promising the moon and delivering nothing. Deliver everything to the letter."

But from many a producer's point of view, such market development costs appear extravagant unless steady business rather than sporadic orders is likely to result. A survey of Canada's exports of consulting services, sponsored by the Department of Industry, Trade

and Commerce in May 1974, found that "the high cost of developing international business was the factor that most firms cited as inhibiting their activity abroad." Foreign promotion costs in 1972 were \$7.4 million, or 13 per cent of consulting export business. About \$500,000 was spent by firms that failed to win foreign business.

One government official suggested that many Canadian firms would rather tap the wealthy and familiar North American and European markets rather than tolerate the frustrations of dealing with developing countries, where business customs and product needs are different.

Thirdly, there have been few bids because there are many products that Canadian companies simply do not make. Even when a company does make a particular product, it often does not make the full range required in the tender. It may make a road grader, but not a scraper. It cannot submit a bid except in consortia with others to round out the bid, and for a variety of reasons consortia are frequently not initiated.

Fourthly, while some commend the government and World Bank for communicating forthcoming tenders, others inevitably argue that the information is not disseminated adequately.

Other reasons for Canada's disappointing performance: Canada is not well known in many developing countries — the activities of CIDA have raised awareness, but it takes time; the United States as well as former colonial powers such as Britain and France are well known, and do well; and finally, in a study on the role and use of consultants in World Bank-financed projects, it was found that "the bulk of services provided were in regions or countries where the supplying country is, and has been for some time, the dominant supplier in international trade."

In the period from February 1972 to February 1976, about half of the \$713 million of Bank consultant contracts went to suppliers from the United States (25 per cent), Britain (14 per cent) and France (12 per cent). Not surprisingly, the United States was particularly active in Latin America and the Caribbean, Britain in East Africa, and France in West Africa.

Canadian suppliers of goods and services won IBRD contracts valued at \$30.5 million in fiscal 1977 ended June 30.

The breakdown by area was: East Asia and the Pacific, \$15.6 million; Europe, the Middle East and North Africa, \$9.1 million; Latin America, \$4.9 million; East Africa, \$700,000, and West Africa, \$200,000. The dominance of Toronto-based Brascan Ltd. in Brazil helps open

the door to business there. Successful IDA bids totalled \$10.9 million.

The lack of practice in submitting bids has meant that a high proportion do not meet requirements. "Canadian suppliers are not sophisticated and have disqualified themselves many times," said one government official.

Canadian goods become less price competitive. Since World Bank-sponsored contract awards are based mainly on price and technological quality, that is a serious handicap. The decline in the Canadian dollar reduces that problem, but it is too early to say how much.

Pricing can be more complicated than it first appears. Andrew Frenton, marketing manager of John T. Hepburn Ltd., which has bid unsuccessfully for World Bank contracts, says "perhaps other countries offer hidden subsidies."

Looking at exports generally, another businessman says that "the EDC is not as competitive as it should be." He added, though, that when a competing country is shown to offer more competitive financing, the EDC is open to altering its terms.

An additional reason for the higher cost is that follow-up servicing is more costly if the Canadian company does not have an established dealership in the recipient country.

A spokesman at MLW Industries Ltd. claims "blatant favoritism" in some contract awards. His firm bid on a contract for 20 locomotives to Indonesia two years ago and lost to a U.S. multinational firm although, he contends, his firm's bid was \$60,000 to \$80,000 lower per locomotive. "We've never won but we'll keep trying." The bid cost about \$80,000 to prepare, as have unsuccessful bids to Thailand, Tunisia and Egypt. [See article p. 4, on CIDA-sponsored locomotives.]

Consultants have done well while manufacturers have been struggling, and the main reasons seem to be the consultants' skills, learned on massive resource projects at home, and their recognized impartiality. In some European countries, such as West Germany, consultancy firms are offshoots of manufacturing firms, and so their impartiality in drawing up specifications and awarding supply contracts could be suspect. In some cases, they also have a considerable influence on governments when it comes to the actual awarding of contracts.

A 1974 study entitled a "Survey of Canada's Exports of Consulting Services," prepared by the consulting services division, office of international special projects at the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce showed that the main areas of expertise in 1972

were power, forestry, transportation, mining, petroleum, and industry.

The fact Canadian suppliers have done poorly despite consultants' success is an indication of the consultants' impartiality. The \$90.3 million of Canadian consulting exports in 1972, including exports not financed through the World Bank, meant potential equipment orders of \$343 million, or almost four times the consulting outlays. It can be argued that consultants could give domestic suppliers a better break without sacrificing their impartiality.

An updated study might show a similar pattern. But there has been a shift in emphasis of total Bank lending, and a shift in consulting contracts would seem logical. In fiscal 1977, as in the two previous years, the sector receiving the most Bank and IDA assistance was agriculture and rural development.

As is stated in the Bank's 1977 annual report: "The focus now is increasingly on identifying the poorest sections of society and on improving their productivity and income levels directly . . . Financing for industrial development is shifting toward small-scale enterprises . . . there is an increasing tendency for loans and credits to incorporate sub-components and other sectors, sometimes experimental and modest in size, so that new techniques can be tried and the benefits of a multisectoral approach tested."

But, as the report states, "lending for traditional projects (power, transportation and telecommunications) remains an important factor in Bank operations."

The second question was what can be done to improve Canada's performance. Among the more refreshing attempts to combat the problem is the prime contractor role taken on by Interimco Ltd. of Ottawa, a private export trading company. The company acted as catalyst and adviser to consortia until it found how cumbersome the committee type of negotiation can be. If one party objects to certain specifications, the whole deal can collapse. Since Interimco represented others in negotiations, it was the one left with egg on its face.

Now Interimco acts as the only contractor in any one deal and subcontracts out all supply requirements. "We've found subcontracting is the only way to go," says Paul Labbe, the energetic president.

So far, Interimco has got no World Bank business though it has submitted about four bids. But it has won a number of commercial contracts, several financed by the EDC which requires 80 per cent Canadian content. It has been active in Indonesia, the Philippines and Cuba.

WOW!!

WHAT AN OPPORTUNITY
— A WORLD BANK
CONTRACT



LET'S SEE NOW...
FIRST I'D GET PARTS
FROM JAPAN... THEN
WOOD FROM BRITAIN...



BETTER NOT FORGET
STEEL FROM GERMANY,
ENGINEERS FROM ITALY,
... AND OTHER STUFF FROM
THE STATES ---- AND THE



GEE ----
I'M GLAD I
DIDN'T BID
ON IT !!



Interimco was founded by Jean-Luc Pepin, who left it to be co-chairman of the federal Anti-Inflation Board.

The federal government, notably the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce (ITC), finds itself at odds as to how much government involvement is desirable. Some argue that the government should put considerable effort into bringing together companies to make bids as consortia. Others argue that the government has no business getting so involved in the private sector.

Clearly, the government favors consortia, which is an obvious approach for Canadian exports. It has recently been reported that the government will establish a super Crown corporation to recruit sales people from ITC to search the globe for big capital projects and put together Canadian consortia to bid for them.

Another initiative was taken as recently as November 1977. The EDC introduced joint and several liability insurance against the possible collapse of one member of a consortium, therefore encouraging the formation of consortia by reducing the risks. Trade commissions relay information of forthcoming contracts as best they can. But that practice sometimes backfires. Canadian subsidiaries have been known to pass the information along to the parent which in the end gets the contract. In one case, a U.S. subsidiary won a contract with Senegal. When Senegal reordered directly at a later date, the subsidiary referred the order to its Belgian sister firm which filled the order.

The Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce offers a number of programs to assist exporters of goods and services. Examples include the Program for Export Market Development (PEMD) which subsidizes the cost of bids submitted should they fail to win a contract.

Another example is the General Adjustment Assistance Program (GAAP) which

provides loan guarantees for manufacturers (and, under certain circumstances, service firms) to establish or restructure operations to take advantage of new export opportunities, or to improve international competitive positions.

Other examples are the Agricultural and Food Products Market Development Program (AGMAP), which provides financial assistance to develop domestic and export markets for agriculture and food products, and the Federal Business Development Bank (formerly known as the Industrial Development Bank), which provides financial assistance particularly for small business.

In the summer of 1973, it put together a multilateral project information system which reports monthly on projects at the stage of valuation — early enough to give suppliers ample time to prepare bids. The projects are on computer, and disseminated to about 1,500 Canadian firms. ITC is now having this program translated into French.

Importantly, in the fall of 1977 the World Bank, in co-operation with the United Nations Development Program, launched a twice-monthly tabloid called *Development Forum Business Edition*, which publishes business opportunities to alert potential suppliers as early as possible. As the first publication stated: "The *Development Forum* venture has one central purpose — to stimulate more efficient and more competitive marketing by promoting the flow of information and thus benefitting buyers and sellers alike." It is available for \$150 (U.S.) a year, by writing *Development Forum*, Subscriptions Department, United Nations, CH-1211 Geneva 10, Switzerland.

In 1973 and 1974, ITC conducted seminars to apprise hundreds of firms of export opportunities. It has discontinued that shotgun approach in favor of giving more time to firms that have shown an interest in exports.

The department prepared what is known as the "blue book": a book detailing all financing sources for international trade. This has proved an invaluable handbook for Canadian exporters.

ITC has just completed setting up a computer program to record all contracts received by Canadian companies for prime contracts (but not sub-contracts).

ITC officials are pressing for more co-operation with CIDA and other export-oriented bodies. CIDA has given potential exporters initial exposure in developing countries. But a more conscious marketing job for Canadian goods would be helpful. "Teachers sponsored by CIDA could use Canadian educational equipment," one ITC official suggested. That way, such equipment would gain a market. "CIDA should be more aware of products Canada has to offer," he added.

W.E. Bonnell, executive vice-president of Shawinigan Engineering, argues that "the best way to increase product sales depends on governments taking a more active interest. Government people should be in the countries working as hard as we are."

As industrial sectors of developing countries become more advanced, they will win more of their domestic contracts. Since 1964, the World Bank has allowed manufacturers in recipient countries, or those in a customs union with them, a price edge — the lower of 15 per cent or the import tariff. Generally, the competition for contracts is getting tougher. Therefore, even greater initiatives on the part of Canadian government agencies and companies are necessary if Canada is to win more contracts. **DD**

Jane Chudy is a freelance business writer based in Toronto. She is a former investments editor of the *Financial Times of Canada*, a former business columnist for the *Globe and Mail*, and has also worked as a reporter for *The Financial Post*.

MILKFISH

by Gamini Seneviratne

Canadian expertise and sex hormones from our Pacific salmon have helped scientists of the aquaculture department of the Southeast Asian Fisheries Development Centre (SEAFDEC) make a significant breakthrough in their milkfish research program set up less than three years ago.

It is now demonstrated as feasible to breed milkfish, *Chanos chanos*, in captivity. When the breeding system is standardized it should be possible to use it on a vast scale, particularly as the infrastructure for rearing literally billions of this fish already exists.

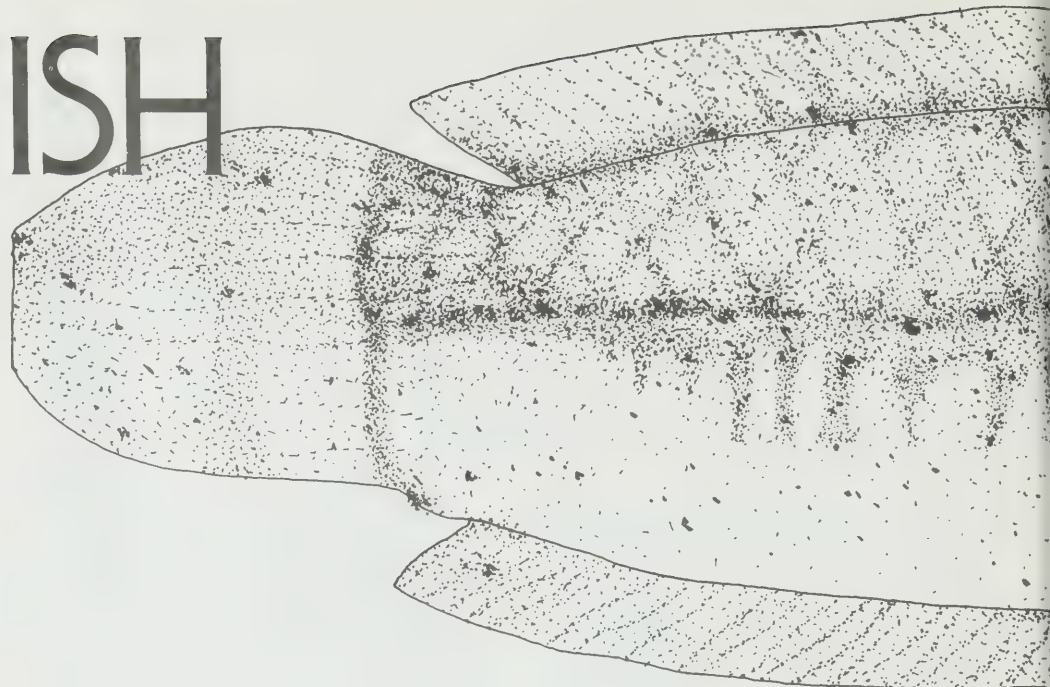
This large, white-fleshed, toothless, herbivorous, herring-like fish is abundant in the tropical and sub-tropical waters of the Indian and Pacific oceans between longitudes 40 degrees east and 100 west. It is a staple protein food of millions and has been for centuries. Today it provides up to half the protein intake of some 200 million people, and is an important food for about twice that number.

The sea fishery for milkfish is very small and almost all fish are cultured. The life-cycle of the milkfish is still as much a mystery as that of the salmon was a century ago.

On the other hand, *chanos* is an ideal fish to farm—it thrives almost exclusively on algae and associated micro-fauna. The fry are swept tidally into coastal waters when they are still a half-inch long. The young grow up in brackish water, lagoons and specially-prepared ponds (occasionally even in fresh water) close to the shoreline and then go to sea to spawn.

Little else is known except that wild adults of indeterminate age could be four feet long and weigh 30 pounds. The optimum marketable weight for farmed fish varies between one pound, which the quick-growing milkfish could reach within six to nine months, and six pounds, which is its weight in its fourth year—if well-fed—in captivity.

Coastal communities in many countries have cultured *chanos* since ancient times. Primitive methods—simply trapping fry in bays and inlets and holding them until they are big enough—are still practised. But more sophisticated techniques have also evolved and been developed. In Indonesia, the Philippines and Taiwan well over half a million acres of



brackish-water ponds prepared for milkfish sustain a multi-million dollar industry.

The ponds vary widely in area, depth and even temperature and salinity. The variations are partly the result of the local environment and partly determined by the size of milkfish the farmer and market want. They are all similar in laying out the food for the milkfish—a thick “carpet” of one or more of six species of algae and an equally dense layer of other algae lying on the surface. This simple and cheap sustenance assures average annual milkfish production of about 300 pounds an acre. Heavy fertilization and artificial feeding has yielded over 1,700 pounds an acre, and where treated sewage is used to fertilize the ponds the yield has averaged nearly 4,500 pounds an acre.

The one universal, and hitherto insoluble, problem has been an acute shortage of fry. No milkfish has ever spawned in captivity. No wild adult has been kept alive for long enough to provide eggs or sperm. These large nervous creatures are so jumpy when caught or handled that they fatally injure themselves or die of heart failure. The entire milkfish farming business, consequently, has always depended exclusively on fry caught from the sea.

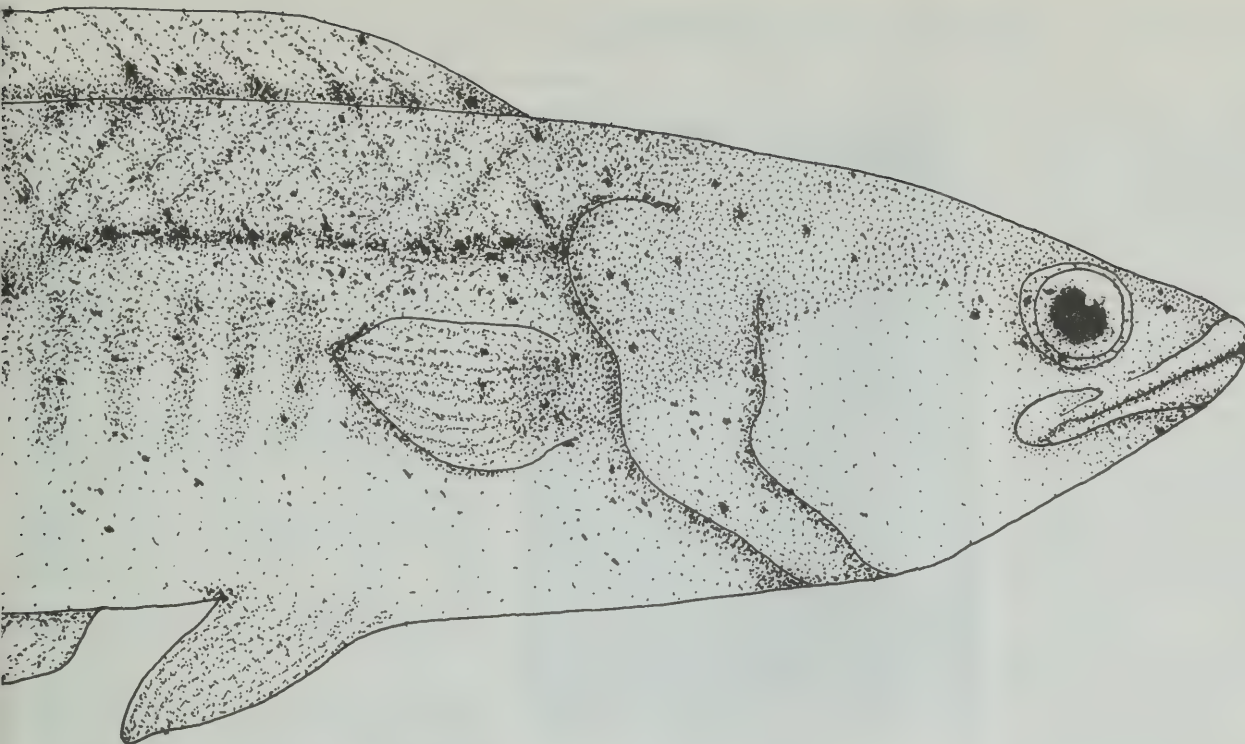
They are caught seasonally as they float in close to land from spawning grounds at sea. They are swept up in garlands of leaves, captured with



Philippines fishermen at the milkfish spawning grounds off Pandan, Panay Island.
photo: Neill McKee

drag-seines made of nets, or trapped in a variety of other ways. Then they are transported to nurseries (where they grow to the fingerling stage), and after to the specially prepared ponds. The process is tedious and the single most expensive part of the farming. Mortality is high. Up to 70 per cent of the fry die before they are ready for market—mostly before they get to the pond-stage. The catch itself is uncertain and variable.

The gap between the demand for fry and the annual supply is widening. In the Philippines, for example, some



Milkfish researchers induce breeding in a captive fish. photo: IDRC

1,500 million fry are needed every year to stock existing ponds. The annual catch averages only 500 million fry. Meanwhile the human population of the region is increasing more than two per cent annually and the per capita protein supply is falling.

Against this background the possibility of breeding milkfish in captivity is of immense significance. When the aquaculture department launched the milkfish research program in 1975, Canadian participation was soon offered and accepted.

The International Development Research Centre (IDRC) which is financed by the Canadian government added \$826,000 to the \$2.2 million set aside for the program by SEAFDEC. The IDRC grant was to cover equipment and supplies for the new facilities then being set up on Panay Island in the Philippines, as well as sea-going equipment, floating enclosures, short-term training of Filipino scientists, the salaries of two foreign experts and four consultants.

Independent of this and, arguably, no less important are two fruits, so to speak, of Canadian research into salmon—a chemical called 2-phenoxyethanol and gonadotropin, the hormonal extract of the pituitary. The former was developed to treat fungus diseases in salmon. The latter, an extract from the pituitary glands of spawning salmon, has proved capable of accelerating the sexual maturity of young salmon (and other species of fish) as well as facilitating the spawning of captive adults.

In Asia, the milkfish researchers have used 2-phenoxyethanol in very dilute concentrations as an effective tranquilizer. They have succeeded in keeping wild adults alive by tranquilizing them for transport and, subsequently, induced spawning with the help of gonadotropin injections. They have been able to strip wild males of milt (sperm) and fertilize the buoyant eggs externally, just as happens in nature. In the first successful experiment the eggs are reported to have

developed into fry after 36 hours in a hatching system.

More than 25 fish weighing over a pound each are now held in the ponds of SEAFDEC and are the living result of this first artificial spawning which has since been repeated four times.

Clearly a number of details—the most effective dosages, for example—have yet to be worked out. But it is now clear that milkfish can be bred in captivity. The life-cycle of *Chanos chanos* remains much of a mystery and part of the research effort is to unravel it through telemetry and tagging. The advance on captive breeding, meanwhile, provides much more than food for thought.

The work of successful induced breeding of milkfish was accomplished by Dr. William E. Vanstone of the Vancouver laboratory of the Fisheries and Marine Service of Environment Canada. His achievement was recognized by the industry in the Philippines as well as their Fisheries Society, which honored his efforts by awarding him two commemorative plaques. **DD**

Gamini Seneviratne is a free-lance journalist living in London, England. He specializes in development, the environment, and Commonwealth affairs.

UNIPAC a shopping centre to benefit the world's needy

The UNICEF Packing and Assembly Center (UNIPAC) in the free port of Copenhagen is a mail-order house of the international community through which the richer countries shop for the world's needy.

UNIPAC's origin goes back to 1953 when it functioned in the basement of the United Nations headquarters in New York. Since it moved to Copenhagen in 1962, it has become a computerized operation handling \$27 million worth of supplies. This translates into 7,000 tons of material packed into 166,000 export cases a year, or two ready-packed cases a minute.

UNIPAC's inventory fluctuates from \$12 million to \$15 million. It represents some 5,600 different items a developing country may need either for its social and economic growth, or in times of natural or man-made disaster.

The supplies flowing through UNIPAC are procured from about 45 countries. They represent only 30 per cent of UNICEF's total aid. These supplies and equipment comprise a great number of individual items, each of relatively small value. They are items which are repeatedly required for packing into kits and sets for use in UNICEF-assisted projects.

But UNIPAC is also uniquely equipped to handle emergencies. Within hours after the most recent appeal for humanitarian assistance to Lebanon, the conveyor belt operation of UNIPAC's cavernous warehouse swung into high gear. A mere 48 hours later, a chartered cargo jet was on its way to Beirut with emergency supplies for thousands of people uprooted by war.

The shipment included 27,000 blankets from New Zealand. Water purification tablets came from Switzerland. A dozen other countries were represented with goods such as kitchen utensils, multivitamins, antiseptic cream and scores of other items packed into 100 emergency sets.

Arne Jensen, UNIPAC's general manager, considers such emergencies "routine."

"It is all a question of pre-stocking items which you know will be in demand over and over again," he said in a recent interview.



The UNICEF Packing and Assembly Centre (UNIPAC) warehouse in Copenhagen is 300 metres long, so employees often use bicycles to get around. photo: UNICEF, Jorgensen

"Right now, we are running out of blankets, and steps have already been taken to replenish our supplies for the next emergency," he said.

But Jensen stressed that emergency relief shipments account for only a small part of UNIPAC's turnover. The day-to-day work of its 100 employees is to break up bulk shipments from international suppliers and include such items in a variety of hospital kits, classroom supplies, or tools and equipment for vocational training.

"We buy in bulk. UNICEF can obtain the merchandise faster and cheaper than individual governments. In an emergency, a developing country could never obtain in time, from a dozen different countries, what it gets from us in an emergency kit. We just prestock such items and when the need arises, we pack them into kits which correspond to specific but varying needs in various situations," Mr. Jensen said.

A visit to the UNIPAC warehouse provided ample evidence that the operation is constantly in a state of high readiness.

The assembly hall is the size of three football fields placed end to end. Many employees use bicycles to get around.

Pointing to rows upon rows of stocked merchandise, Mr. Jensen said: "You give us the order and we supply the kits." But he smilingly acknowledged that cookie jars are easier to get than Land-Rovers. Later, he received a call from the UNICEF office in Geneva

which wanted to know whether UNIPAC could in fact send two or three Land-Rovers to a particular developing country for a UNICEF-related project. Mr. Jensen quickly ascertained that the Land-Rovers were indeed available in his warehouse. But he first urged the Geneva caller to make certain that the request was justified, and the stated emergency need for the vehicles was verified.

Not all items handled by UNIPAC require such careful checking. There are in fact dozens of items which once made sense to one or two countries in a particular situation, but have not been in demand since. They have begun cluttering a section of the warehouse and UNIPAC is currently campaigning among UNICEF field offices to get rid of them.

They include 586 cookie jars worth \$2,321. And at the bargain price of \$88, some desert country could have 418 sandglass graduated egg-timers. The instruction sheets specify that the egg-timers are good for one- to five-minute eggs.

In putting together UNIPAC kits, Mr. Jensen and his colleagues must use elementary psychology and knowledge of local customs and requirements.

A primary school kit going to an African country has a black doll, not white. Lack of electricity in many communities of the developing countries sometimes puts an extra strain on UNICEF procurement officers. A dental chair destined for a rural area is likely to be portable and foot-operated. More likely than not, it will sport a protective guard. "Most patients are afraid of the needle. They refuse to be anesthetized. But they also have a tendency to bite the dentist when the going gets rough. That's why we put a guard on the chair," Mr. Jensen said.

Some of these items are difficult to get. "We are running out of producers of charcoal or kerosene hand-irons. They are considered antique in the industrial countries. But they serve a very good purpose in places without electricity," Mr. Jensen explained.

What was the most crucial test for UNIPAC? "Biafra, without doubt. It was our largest emergency. We had a UNICEF-chartered plane shuttling back and forth."

"After the Biafra experience, we think UNIPAC can handle anything, although we wish that we would not have to prove it." DD

Ireland's aid program

The last five years have seen a marked change in Ireland's aid to the developing world. The turning point, in 1973, was the election of the National Coalition government, which gave official development assistance policy a status it had never enjoyed before.

During the National Coalition's four years in office (1973-77), official development assistance increased from \$1.7 million to \$9.8 million (from £0.8 million to £4.6 million at current exchange rates). In terms of the proportion of the country's gross national product (GNP) spent on aid, the jump was from 0.036 per cent to 0.104 per cent.

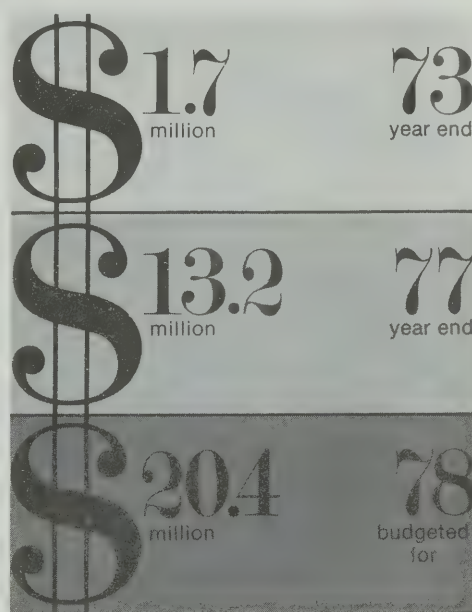
And the trend has continued under the Fianna Fáil government which was returned to office in July 1977. Expenditures on aid for 1977 rose to \$13.2 million or 0.12 per cent of the estimated GNP. A 32 per cent increase to \$20.4 million, or 0.15 per cent of estimated GNP, has been budgeted for 1978.

When measured against the target set by the United Nations in 1970 (0.7 per cent of GNP to be devoted to official development assistance by 1980), Ireland's performance seems dismal. However, the European Economic Community (EEC) has allowed Ireland, along with Italy and Luxembourg, more time to reach the target. They were judged to be countries having domestic structural difficulties, relatively low per capita incomes, or aid programs of recent origin.

Ireland did have a late start in international development efforts. During the 1950s and 1960s aid payments were made primarily as a side effect of membership of UN agencies and in response to calls for assistance for the victims of natural disasters.

The kernel of Ireland's relations with the developing world lay almost totally outside the official government sphere in the voluntary sector. Significant efforts were being made by voluntary agencies and missionaries to assist developing countries. For years, their efforts overshadowed the limited government involvement. In 1976, there were 5,848 Irish missionaries working in more than 60 developing countries.

Ireland made its initial contribution (\$10,650) to UN funds in 1951, and joined the World Bank in 1957 for reasons of self-interest — Ireland has secured eight World Bank loans itself, at interest rates slightly lower than those prevailing on world capital markets. Since 1960, Ireland has also been a



member of the International Development Association, the arm of the World Bank which provides concessional loans to developing countries.

An important factor influencing Ireland's attitude toward the developing world was its entrance into the EEC in 1973. At that time the EEC was revising its development co-operation policy in the light of a changed world situation. The 1960s had seen development issues move into the forefront of international concerns. The demands of developing countries had begun to carry weight as all became aware of the power they possessed in the form of raw materials and primary products vital to the developed world.

Development co-operation policy was assuming greater importance within member countries as the EEC realized its potential in external relations as the largest trading bloc in the world. It also realized the necessity of having a policy of co-operation rather than confrontation with the Third World.

The largest proportion of Ireland's aid funds are used to fulfill its obligations to the EEC and other multilateral institutions. This trend increased considerably during the period 1973 to 1976.

Apart from its obligatory payments to international institutions, Ireland disburses additional aid voluntarily through these bodies, which has on occasion caused its multilateral disbursements to comprise 85 per cent of its total aid spending. Of the 1978 budget of \$20 million, about 76 per cent will be spent through multilateral channels (46 per cent through the EEC and 30 per cent through the UN and the World Bank).

This leaves about \$6.9 million to be spent bilaterally (directly between Ireland and developing countries). Because of the small amount of funds available for this type of assistance, Ireland concentrates its aid in a few of the world's least developed countries — mainly Lesotho, Sudan and Tanzania.

Most of the aid is spent in Lesotho, to the degree that the Irish will be setting up an office there this year to be run by an official from the Irish department of foreign affairs. Ireland is involved in a wide range of projects in Lesotho: rural and agricultural development, assistance to the electricity board, upgrading of the wool-processing industry, and surveying the country's potential tourist industry.

Most of Ireland's bilateral aid is provided in the form of technical assistance, i.e. the funding of consultants to provide expertise in the developing country or the acceptance of trainees from the developing country to be educated in Ireland.

A large part is played in this respect by some 28 semi-state bodies which are members of DEVCO, the State Agencies' Development Co-operation Organization, established in 1973. DEVCO agencies, such as the Irish Export Board, the Electricity Supply Board, and the Agricultural Institute, are involved in bilateral assistance projects funded by the Irish government. This involvement gives employment to Irish nationals and assists in developing new markets for Irish produce and skills in Third World countries.

The other noteworthy body that is aided by government bilateral funds is the Agency for Personal Service Overseas (APSO). It was established in 1974 with the aim of sponsoring Irish citizens wishing to work on economic and development projects in Third World countries. APSO co-finances personal service assignments in the developing world with Irish voluntary agencies, state-sponsored bodies, and institutions such as hospitals and universities.

In an effort to boost this traditionally strong sector of Irish assistance, the government has pledged in its 1978 budget to substantially increase its provision for co-financing development projects sponsored by Irish voluntary agencies. There will also be new priority assigned to educating the Irish people to the needs of people in developing countries. DD

When the Snake Bites the Sun

by Bob Ogle

Texchuck Enterprises, Saskatoon, 205 pages, \$4.95

Bob Ogle—the author of *When the Snake Bites the Sun*—is a Catholic priest who has been active in many fields of pastoral and humanitarian work. He learned about the Third World first hand through six hard years as a missionary during the 1960s in the backward northeastern area of Brazil.

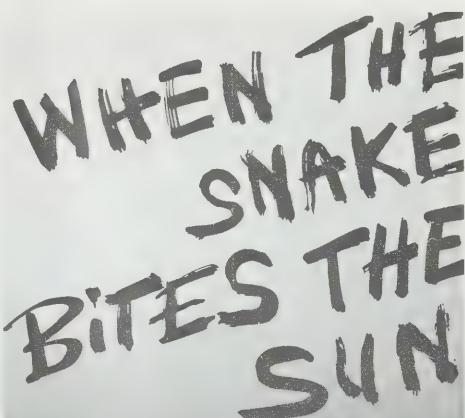
On returning to Canada in 1970 he became a parish priest once again, but was active in Catholic organizations for overseas aid, and more recently was sent on a year's tour of India, Sri Lanka and South America. On behalf of the International Development Research Centre, he studied the long-term effects of projects undertaken by the kind of Canadian non-governmental organizations CIDA had been funding or was considering funding.

Father Ogle's knowledge of the Third World is considerable, his experience of aid projects is undoubtedly wide, and I am sure his travels have been interesting and even exciting. Yet when he commits all this to paper in *When the Snake Bites the Sun*, the result, despite a very attractive title, is almost a textbook example of how not to convey a message in prose.

I am convinced that Father Ogle could have given us a good plain account of his experiences if he had been content with reporting them. He would even have been in good company. Reportage was turned into a respected art by men like George Orwell, James Agee and Edmund Wilson.

Instead, he has been led astray by literary ambitions he seems unable to fulfil, yet, at any rate. We are told by his publishers that he has produced "a unique combination of journal and short story." Far from being in any way "unique," this kind of combination of fact and fiction has been tried often before, and even good writers have found it extremely difficult to carry out. The result is a disjointed and highly uneven book: fragments of journal that trail off pointlessly; tales that lack the real impetus of short stories and thus are anti-climatic.

The pieces that do carry some weight and feeling are the sketches of life in Brazil, where Father Ogle spent the longest time, but their relative interest



only shows up the weakness of the rest of the book.

To write didactically in fiction and poetry is difficult, because the lesson and the form have to be skillfully balanced in order not to destroy each other. Father Ogle's stories fail as stories because he is too eager to tell us something rather than to let something emerge out of the creation of a plausible fictional situation. And the message itself suffers, because the characters who serve as Father Ogle's spokesmen are two-dimensional and uninteresting as people.

A Camus, a Dostoevsky, a Tolstoy can set out to give us lessons embodied in fiction, and they sometimes succeed by the skin of their teeth. But for people of lesser imaginative power, there is no substitute for the straightforward narrative written with sympathy and knowledge, or the straightforward plea for action backed by clear information.

I believe Father Ogle might have written either, and I am sure he would have reached a wider audience. People who like short stories will find this book naive and amateurish, and people who want information will read it with impatience. There is good material here and good intention, but these alone do not make good writing. **DD**

reviewed by George Woodcock

George Woodcock, widely regarded as the dean of Canadian letters, is a poet, historian, editor and critic.

Water: The Hazardous Necessity

Produced by the National Film Board for CIDA
27 minutes, color.

Water is the source of life. But sometimes that source brings disease, blindness and death. Thirty-seven major diseases plague the Third World as a result of contaminated water, and victims number in the hundreds of millions.

Water: The Hazardous Necessity, directed by Tina Viljoen, is a hard-hitting film which points out that while major disasters capture worldwide attention and aid, Third World victims of water-based diseases are left to die.

Throughout Africa and Asia such diseases are spread in a variety of ways. Guinea worm, which bores a hole through the flesh, is contracted by frequent contact with contaminated water. River blindness, which in some Upper Volta villages affects two-thirds of the population, is propagated by black flies. Bilharzia, which has plagued Africa for centuries, is carried by parasites hatched into the water from the bodies of river snails.

Letitia Obeng, a microbiologist with the United Nations Environment Program, who is interviewed in the film, stresses that while good sanitation and clean water would break the life cycle of the diseases, such measures are costly and do not provide economic returns for the Third World nations. Drugs and medication would be other methods to conquer the diseases. But, she emphasizes that in most cases medication must be administered in the early stages of the disease and under hospital supervision. Equipment, such as helicopters for insecticide spraying or drills for wells, must be imported from other countries, and increases the debt to the developed world.

The film footage is skillfully edited and provides a powerful backdrop for the facts presented. Scenes of young boys leading lines of men and women afflicted by river blindness, or of villagers digging wells and irrigation ditches with picks and shovels, or of people working in the fields while being bitten relentlessly by black flies, remain with the viewer long after the film has ended.

The text, co-written by Tina Viljoen and Michael Bryans, is straightforward and gripping. The facts keep hitting home: one-half of the world's population does not have safe water to drink; 25,000 Third World people die every day; there



A common sight in Upper Volta villages is a child leading a victim of river blindness. photo: IDRC

is one doctor for every 93,000 people in Upper Volta; only \$30 million (the cost of two modern jet-fighters) is spent on research to combat tropical diseases. With statistics such as these, the viewer cannot help but respond.

Quite simply, this is a haunting film.

Water: The Hazardous Necessity was produced from extra footage of films made for the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements which took place in Vancouver in 1976.

The film was produced for CIDA by the National Film Board (NFB), and is available on loan, free of charge, from NFB libraries across Canada. DD

reviewed by Blaine Marchand

Blaine Marchand is an Ottawa reviewer, interviewer and poet.



UN anti-apartheid symbol

Three figures representing the major races of the world, standing with hands joined and surrounded by the olive leaves of the United Nations symbol, are depicted in the emblem for the UN Anti-Apartheid Year, which began March 21.

Eco-development at work in the Third World

Eco-development, as explained in the May 1978 issue of *Development Directions*, is a forward-looking and ecologically sound approach to development, and is increasingly recognized as a significant alternative to traditional economic-growth-oriented models of development by many countries. However, recognition is not enough by itself. Not only is the concept of eco-development gaining ground, but its basic principles are already being applied in many development projects.

In Mexico, the National Council on Science and Technology (CONACYT) has created several research institutes in recent years, concerned with different aspects of tropical ecology. One such institute is CECODES, the Eco-development Centre (Centro de Ecodesarrollo).

In its first two years of existence, CECODES has been involved in many field projects: participating in regional development planning, acting as a consultant in resource management and agriculture, providing assessments of the environmental impact of industrial development projects, introducing small rural communities to the concepts and techniques of eco-development, developing new production techniques for coffee in different ecological settings, undertaking interdisciplinary research on the problems of shanty towns (*ciudades perdidas*) surrounding metropolitan Mexico and other major urban centres, and experimenting with non-conventional sources of energy (sunlight, biogas, wind, water) to allow isolated communities to become self-sufficient in that regard.

The work of CECODES illustrates the many dimensions of eco-development well. It promotes the rational use of renewable resources (the technical aspect of eco-development), which diversifies the production base and favors small-scale industrial development (economic aspect), while serving community interests by using local labor (social aspect).

In Africa, the Training Program on Environment and Development (ENDA) promotes eco-development through research and education geared toward action. Based in Dakar, Senegal, ENDA was created in 1972 by the African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP), the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP),

and the Swedish International Development Authority (SIDA).

ENDA's approach combines theoretical and practical work on environment-related development problems all over Africa and to a lesser extent, elsewhere in the Third World. During the past year, it has served as consultant to many African governments, regional planning organizations and international institutions, in the field of applied ecology and resource management.

ENDA has also organized numerous seminars, workshops and training sessions, notably on the following subjects: mixed technology for eco-development in the Sahel region, environment and development in peasant communities of Western Africa, environmental problems in densely populated islands of the western Indian Ocean, rural developments at the village level in the savanna environment of Nigeria, traditional technologies for development in African environments, and a comparative study of approaches and actions in dealing with the problems of shanty towns in Africa and Latin America.

These are only two examples of eco-development at work in the Third World. But more and more governments publicly declare their support of eco-development concepts. Even such a newly independent country as Papua New Guinea advocates eco-development as the only viable alternative for the development not only of its own country, but of all the nations of the South Pacific. Such a demonstration of political will certainly illustrates that eco-development can be a sensible and politically viable development strategy.

More information on CECODES activities can be found in its periodical publication *Carta bimestral*, available free of charge by writing to CECODES, Altadena no 8, Mexico 18, D.F.

ENDA regularly publishes a periodical, *African Environment*, and a series of occasional papers dealing with environment-related issues such as education, housing, health, food production, urban planning, and rural development. More information on these publications and on ENDA activities in general may be obtained by writing to ENDA, B.P. 3370, Dakar, Senegal. DD

Marc-André Fredette

Marc-André Fredette is research assistant to the head of CIDA's Prospective Unit.

Northern technology — not necessarily a panacea for the South

by Colin Norman

In the Third World, it has become clear that the technological revolution has bypassed most of the world's poor. Although the "green revolution" has increased grain yields, for example, chronic malnutrition is still a fact of life and death for at least half a billion people — a grim reminder that technical remedies cannot solve complex social problems.

Technology seemed to hold the key to many treasures in the '50s and '60s, as a stream of technological innovations changed virtually every facet of life in the industrial world. The post-war recovery of Europe and Japan heralded a period of rapid economic growth.

In the British parliamentary election of 1964, former Prime Minister Harold Wilson repeatedly promised to lead the nation to prosperity through the "white heat of technological revolution." Across the Atlantic, the Apollo program was in full swing, with the goal of putting a man on the moon by the end of the decade. In Asia and Latin America, the green revolution was about to get under way, and it seemed to promise a technological solution to the world's food problem.

As for energy, although it was generally acknowledged that oil and gas reserves would not last forever, nuclear power was waiting in the wings, ready to provide electricity "too cheap to meter." Foreign aid programs of the '50s and '60s were constructed around large, high-technology projects in the expectation that economic development would quickly follow. But by the early '70s, some of the bright hopes invested in the technological revolution began to dim.

The transition from the gung ho technological optimism of the post-war era to the more uncertain mood of the '70s is symbolized by two events of singular technological importance — the 1969 moon landing and the 1973 Arab oil embargo. The moon landing marked the pinnacle of a long, spectacular effort that demonstrated humanity's technological prowess. Just four years later, however, the oil embargo underlined the fragility of the petroleum-based economies of the industrial world, and provided a forceful demonstration of the close bonds between modern technology and a finite, shrinking resource.



The persistence of deep-rooted social, economic, and environmental problems in rich and poor countries alike has provided fertile ground for questioning the nature and direction of technological development. In general, the prevailing attitude has changed from confidence that technology will pave the way to a better future, to uncertainty, summed up in the query: "If we can put a man on the moon, why can't we . . .?"

The uncertainty is understandable, for the world faces an uncertain future. Economists are unable to diagnose, let alone cure, the economic ills that have afflicted most countries in the '70s. Unemployment has reached epidemic proportions in much of the developing world, and it shows every sign of rising in the next few decades. In the industrial countries as well, joblessness is at unacceptable levels. Income gaps between rich and poor countries, and between rich and poor within many countries, have been widening in recent years, a trend that is raising justified demands for greater global equity. The longevity of the world's oil and gas reserves is in doubt, and rich and poor countries alike face the necessity of switching to new sources of energy supply in the next few decades. And there are signs that pressures on many of the world's ecosystems are reaching unsustainable levels.

These four concerns — employment, equity, energy, and ecology — are likely to remain high on the international agenda for the remainder of the 20th century and beyond. They must be taken into account in the choice of technologies within countries, and in the transfer of technologies between countries. These criteria have not played

a prominent role in technological development during most of the post-war era.

During the '50s and '60s unemployment was relatively low in industrial countries, capital was abundant, energy was cheap and seemingly boundless, and raw materials were available in copious quantities. Technological development therefore generally led to the substitution of capital and energy for labor in the production of goods and services. Technologies have become more complex, energy-intensive, labor-saving, and larger in scale, and industrial society has acquired a voracious appetite for raw materials. These trends must be examined in the light of the changing global environmental and economic prospects. These prospects require that technologies be adapted to the use of constrained rather than abundant resources. But no technology — however appropriate — will solve social problems by itself.

The development, introduction, and international transfer of technologies are processes that involve a constellation of government policies, vested interests, and political and economic trade-offs. These factors all constrain the choice of technologies. Moreover, an attack on problems of malnutrition, disease, poverty, and land degradation requires political will, as well as material resources, in order to mount adequate public health programs, overhaul credit facilities, and institute land reforms.

Nevertheless, the choice of inappropriate technologies can only exacerbate social, economic, and environmental problems. It is clearly time to shed the notion that the biggest, fastest, most modern technologies are always the best, and to seek alternatives that are more compatible with the changing global conditions in the final quarter of the 20th century. **DD**

Colin Norman is a senior researcher with Worldwatch Institute, an independent, UN-sponsored international research organization based in Washington. He is author of *Soft Technologies, Hard Choices*, a paper on the issues of appropriate technology and development published by Worldwatch.

Readers of *Development Directions* are invited to send submissions to this column. Items should not be more than 1,000 words, preferably typed and double spaced. Send submissions to:

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a newsmagazine on international development

Action
a quarterly tabloid on the international development work of voluntary groups (non-governmental organizations)

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a report on Canada's development assistance program presented to the Development Assistance Committee of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

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CIDA annual reviews for 1975-76 and 1976-77

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terms and abbreviations related to development (bilingual)
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World Map
includes population, average per capita annual income, life expectancy, and main commodity exports for each country
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Other Sources

Material is also available from Canadian non-governmental organizations con-

cerning their work in international development.

Publications available in English and French free of charge (unless otherwise noted) from:
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DEVELOPMENT DIRECTIONS

A NEWS MAGAZINE ON INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

OCTOBER 1978

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THE DECLINING
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THE NEED FOR
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AFRICA

INTER PRESS:
PROFILE OF A
THIRD WORLD
NEWS SERVICE



A note from the editor-in-chief

Newspapers, radio, television, and magazines are the means through which the vast majority of people form their impressions about the Third World. Their influence in shaping public opinion in Canada about international development and aid-related issues is enormous.

Media analyst and journalist Dennis Schroeder writes about the increasingly alarming trend for Canadian newspapers to carry less international news in general and less news of the Third World in particular.

Newspapers, radio, television and magazines in the Third World are a vital component of the development process. This issue of *Development Directions* contains a report on the Unesco commission on communications problems and its particular concern about the domination of the developing countries' news by multinational news agencies and the resulting demands by many Third World nations for a "new world information order."

Another side of the image of the Third World in the news media is the journalists who write and broadcast about development issues. Some Canadian efforts to better educate journalists likely to write about development issues are contained in articles about the programs offered by two Canadian universities — Laval in Quebec and Western Ontario in London.

Other items on the subject of "development and the news media" include a profile of the Third World news agency, Inter Press, by Jeff Endrst, *Development Directions*' correspondent at the United Nations and a book review of the recently published study, "Broadcasting in the Third World."

Paul Doucet
Editor-in-chief

Development Directions is published nine times a year by the Canadian International Development Agency under the authority of the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honorable Don C. Jamieson. Issues are printed in January, February, March, April, May, July, September, October, and November.

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The opinions expressed in this magazine do not necessarily reflect the opinion or policies of the Canadian International Development Agency.

Development Directions welcomes letters to the editor. Submissions should be addressed to:

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Development Directions,
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200 rue Principale,
Hull, Quebec, Canada
K1A 0G4.

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Development Directions est également disponible gratuitement en français sous le titre *Directions du Développement*. Toute demande doit être adressée au responsable de la diffusion. *Directions du Développement* L'Agence canadienne de développement international.

ISSN 0705-064X

Second Class Mail
Registration Number 4353

Contract No. OKX7-1173
Beauregard Press
Printed in Canada

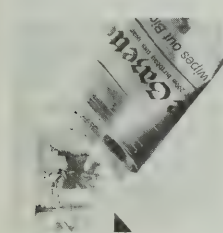
Cover:

Photography, Crombie McNeill
Art Direction, Rod Overall.

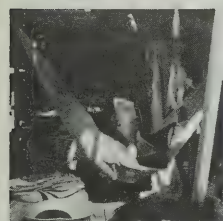
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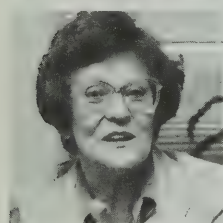
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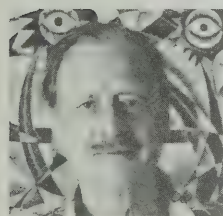
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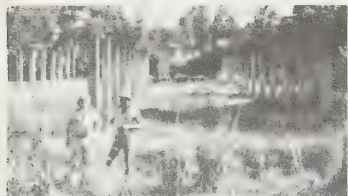
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Africa

Canadian funds help increase Seychelles' cinnamon production



A \$19,000 MAF grant helped the Seychelles build a cinnamon-drying kiln around these concrete pillars from an abandoned sawmill project. CIDA Photo: Charles Bassett



The newly-constructed cinnamon-drying kiln and open workshop will allow the town of Grand Anse to quadruple its cinnamon-drying capacity. CIDA Photo: Charles Bassett

The Republic of Seychelles, the smallest country of Africa, will be able to increase its cinnamon production through a grant from Canada's Mission Administered Fund (MAF).

The \$19,000 grant will help the town of Grande Anse, on the largest of this newly independent country's 89 islands, to quadruple its cinnamon-producing capacity through construction of a cinnamon-drying kiln.

The kiln will replace the traditional technique of drying cinnamon bark on the roof of an equipment shed. Tropical rains have caused delays and underutilization of production capacity with this technique. The new drying kiln will be built around concrete pillars from an abandoned Norwegian sawmill project. The MAF project also includes the construction of an open workshop and storage facilities for cinnamon bark.

Cinnamon is the second most important crop in Seychelles, providing approximately one-third of the country's export earnings.

A total of \$8 million has been allocated by CIDA to the MAF program for 1978. This will enable Canadian embassies in Third

World countries to respond quickly to local requests for development assistance for small projects. This is an increase of \$2 million over the amount spent last year.

In 1977 approximately 900 projects were supported through MAFs, with grants ranging in size from \$300 to the maximum \$25,000.

Vocational school opens in Ghana with help from Saskatchewan

A Canadian delegation, headed by Donald Faris, minister of education for Saskatchewan, recently attended the opening of the Kumasi Trades Training Institute (KTTI) in Ghana. The project, which began in 1971, was partially funded by a CIDA grant of \$6.7 million.

The Department of Continuing Education for Saskatchewan was responsible for providing professional and technical training and personnel for the institute. KTTI will provide skilled tradesmen for the northern area of Ghana and is considered by CIDA to be a strategic project in West Africa.

Support sought for transport and communications

African countries have appealed to the rich nations through the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) for financial support in an ambitious program for the development of transport and communications in Africa.

The program is seen as the focal point of activities to be undertaken in connection with the UN Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, proclaimed by the General Assembly last December and covering the years 1978-88. One program component would provide for the development of African civil aviation during a five-year period, at the estimated cost of \$180 million.

African countries also appealed for financial support to establish a regional institute for economic planning and development, in addition to their appeal for funds

to investigate the problem of migrant labor in southern Africa.

The proposal to ECOSOC was intended to clear the way for the convening in early 1979 of a pledging conference to receive indications of contributions towards the activities of the decade.

Humanitarian assistance

New group formed to help Third World disaster victims



Homeless disaster victims are threatened with sickness or starvation unless food supplies and medicines reach them within a few days. A new London-based group hopes to better co-ordinate international relief efforts. Photo: Oxfam

An international organization has been established in London to investigate the most effective ways of helping the Third World victims of such natural disasters as famine, earthquake and epidemics.

The International Disasters Institute (IDI) was formed by a group of British scientists, sociologists, doctors and politicians, in the wake of studies which suggested that previous Western disaster aid has not been entirely effective.

Frances D'Souza of Oxford Polytechnic's Disasters and Settlements Study Centre, one of the founding groups of the IDI, claims that only a fraction of money currently spent on aid is necessary. She says famine, for instance, is rarely predicted and food relief usually arrives only after many deaths have occurred from starvation. The group also charges that large quantities of food are frequently airlifted to disaster areas at huge cost while incountry supplies cannot be moved in the quantities required, because of

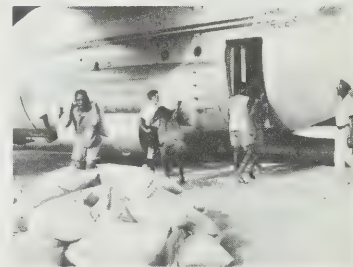
chronic shortage of transport and funds.

The main aims of IDI were described as providing field surveys to make a rapid assessment of casualties and need following a major disaster; training relief workers; sponsoring research projects and providing information services. Scientific research to investigate the real needs of survivors is long overdue, and this will be one of the IDI's key functions.

The IDI has been formed by members of the London Technical Group, the Disaster Research Unit of Bradford University, and the Oxford Polytechnic Centre. Research already carried out by these groups demonstrates the potential for improving the type and timing of disaster relief.

[Several articles on disaster relief issues appear in the May '78 issue of DD.]

CIDA establishes new emergency relief unit



Third World countries are often hardest hit by natural or man-made disaster because they don't have the resources to cope. Here, sacks of grain are unloaded from a Canadian Forces aircraft in a UN-sponsored airlift of food in the Sahel Zone of Africa. Photo: CIDA

A new unit for emergency relief has been created at CIDA as a section of the United Nations Programs Division of Multilateral Branch. The Humanitarian, Refugee and Emergency Relief Unit (HERU) will group the relief activities previously covered by International Emergency Relief and the UN Programs Division.

HERU is responsible for developing general agency policy on humanitarian and emergency aid, for general liaison and co-ordination on these matters with other branches and departments, and for the implementation of specific funding programs. Fred Smith will head the unit.

Upcoming conferences

"Essential needs" to be discussed in Montreal



"Essential Needs" and Development Co-operation: Facing the Challenges is the theme of a conference co-sponsored by the World Bank and the North-South Institute in Montreal on October 23-24. This will be the first time that the World Bank has sponsored such an event jointly with an independent organization in Canada.

The North-South Institute hopes to contribute to a better understanding of the meaning and limits of "essential needs" development strategies, in the context of contemporary international relations, by bringing together approximately 200 invited participants representing the federal and provincial governments, international organizations, NGOs, business, labor, the academic community and a number of participants from the Third World.

The presentation and evaluation of World Bank, CIDA and NGO projects in "case study" workshops will help to identify the potential and the problems of "essential needs" approaches in official and non-governmental co-operation programs.

Mahbud ul Haq, author of *The Poverty Curtain*, will be giving the opening address of the conference on "The Poverty Priority: Basis for a New Direction?" and CIDA president Michel Dupuy has agreed to speak on "The Agenda for Development Co-operation Programs" in the final

plenary session. Further information may be obtained from the office of the North-South Institute, 185 Rideau Street, Ottawa, Canada K1N 5X8.

CIDA

Annual review now available



An overview of Canada's \$1.2 billion international development program is provided in the recently published 40-page CIDA Annual Review for 1977-78.

To mark the agency's 10th year of operation, the introduction stresses the progress made to date in contributions to Third World development and the tests and challenges the organization will be meeting as it enters its second decade.

The shift in policy towards providing as much assistance as possible for the "poorest people living in the most disadvantaged countries" is noted in the message contributed by Don Jamieson, secretary of state for external affairs. Michel Dupuy, CIDA president, affirms his intention to direct the agency so that the Canadian public will be assured that their financial contributions to the developing countries are being carefully managed.

In the body of the report are summaries of CIDA's multilateral and bilateral aid programs, food aid, emergency relief, and the special programs to encourage participation in development by national and international voluntary associations and by Canadian business and industry.

The Annual Review will be

supplemented by fact-sheets of more detailed information on specific programs such as the bilateral programs in Asia, Francophone Africa, Commonwealth Africa, Commonwealth Caribbean and Latin America.

Copies of the Annual Review are available, free on request, by writing: Public Affairs Division, CIDA, 200 rue Principale, Hull, Quebec, Canada K1A 0G4.

International development awards are announced

This year, 11 Canadians have been awarded CIDA scholarships.

The value of the scholarships is determined by the nature and scope of the studies to be undertaken. They are worth up to \$11,500 a year, and are tenable for a two-year period. This year's research topics include integrated rural development, Sahel co-operatives, and non-formal education and its applications to the Third World.

The object of the scholarship program is to help Canadians develop careers in the field of international development. The winners must spend part of the time in a developing country conducting field research related to the particular aspects of development they have chosen to study. Fourteen other people hold scholarships from 1977, bringing the current total in the CIDA scholarship program to 25, the maximum allowable.

This year's winners are Linda Starodub, 26, of Toronto; Margaret Fast, 32, of Winnipeg; Peter Whitar, 28, of Halifax; Jean Phaneuf, 25, of Drummondville, Quebec; Gilles Roy, 49, of Rimouski; Ross Kidd, 33, of Ottawa; Sheila Black, 33, of Calgary; Richard Fahlman, 30, of Vancouver; Micheline Beaudry-Somcynsky, 29, of Verner, Ontario; Linda Harasim, 29, of Edmonton, and Paul-André Rochon, 29, of Pembroke, Ontario.

Scholarship applications are submitted to a selection committee of representatives from CIDA, the International Development Research Centre and non-government organizations involved in international development.

UN programs

UNIDO to open North American office

The UN Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in Vienna has signed an agreement which will extend to New York the Organization's investment promotion activities on behalf of Third World countries.

Through the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC), the United States is making a gift of \$50,000 to establish an investment promotion service which will aim at increasing links between North American businessman and enterprises of developing countries through partnership or other arrangements.

The service will also conduct a training program for Third World officials who want to improve their abilities in this field. Four-week seminars will be held at the premises of leading American firms, interspersed with visits to promotion centers established in New York City by both developed and developing countries. Instructors will be provided by commercial concerns and by promotion centers and international organizations.

Similar services by UNIDO have been established in Belgium, West Germany and Switzerland, and another is scheduled for Italy.

UNDP grant to Czechoslovakia for Third World

Development has begun to play an active role in international détente.

The UN Development Program (UNDP) has allocated \$2.5 million to highly industrialized Czechoslovakia on the grounds that such seed money will promote East-West economic co-operation in line with recommendations of the 1975 Helsinki Conference on European Security and Co-operation. Canada and the United States were participants at that conference.

Czechoslovakia urgently needs Western co-operation in order to ensure the highest possible scientific and technical

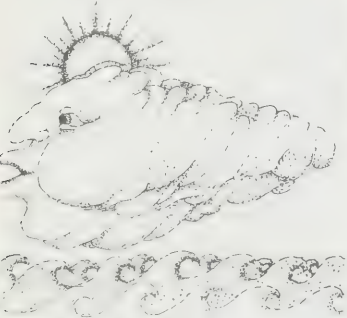
standards in all sectors of its national economy. This can best be achieved through Western technology and know-how. The UNDP has agreed to finance projects which call for introduction of newest development techniques by foreign experts in Czechoslovakia, or for fellowships for Czechoslovak specialists abroad.

The program is based on the simple proposition that Czechoslovak energy resources and raw materials are limited, and that economic growth can henceforth be promoted mostly through modern technology which generates higher productivity.

It is expected that the UNDP projects will indirectly benefit Third World development. Some of the money is earmarked for improvements in the Computing Research Centre in Bratislava, Czechoslovakia. This UNDP-organized and staffed centre is schooling many Third World specialists in computer science.

Czechoslovakia is also host to hundreds of students from the developing countries in animal and plant production. But the country's specialists have little or no practical knowledge in tropical and subtropical disciplines. This will now be remedied through fellowships in various agricultural research centres in Africa and Asia.

UN-sponsored energy conference under consideration



The United Nations is discussing the feasibility of holding an international conference on new and renewable sources of energy in 1981.

Malta has offered to host such a conference.

Canada, the United States, the European Economic Community, and Japan voiced their support for the idea when it was reviewed by the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in Geneva.

The proposed conference would evaluate resource potential and the availability and economic feasibility of technology. It would also explore mechanisms for international technical co-operation and transfer of technology.

During the ECOSOC debate, special reference was made to the rich resources in solar energy, geothermal power, bio-gas, tidal and wind power—all of which might be produced in the Third World countries. It was pointed out that such new and renewable energy resources could play an important role in coping with the shortage of oil.

Speakers also expressed interest in a world symposium on coal to be held in Poland in 1979.

Expert studies have shown that if oil was to be used at the current rate of consumption, there would be little left by the 1990s to meet the requirements of both industrialized and developing nations.

Asia

Newly independent Solomon Islands needs foreign assistance



Australia has been helping Solomon Islands improve their pastures to help develop their cattle industry in preparation for independence.
Photo: Australian Development Assistance Bureau

The Solomon Islands became independent of Britain in July but its economy is likely to remain heavily dependent on foreign aid for a long time.

UN studies show that the new country plans to develop expert knowledge in fisheries and utilize fully its right to the resources of

the sea within a 200-mile zone.

Britain has informed the UN that it plans to continue its technical assistance for the islands in addition to a \$50 million grant over the next four years.

The Pacific Ocean islands have more than 200,000 people. The territories' principal resources are its agricultural land, coconut palms, fisheries, forests, and minerals. It specializes in the production of a few commodities for export, mainly copra and timber, and depends heavily on imported goods to satisfy local requirements.

Agriculture accounts for about 60 per cent of the gross domestic product, while mining, manufacturing, and utilities account for only 1.5 per cent. The manufacturing industry is still in its early infancy, and only about 1,000 people are employed in the manufacturing sector.

The Solomon Islands has just applied for UN membership and will be the 150th state to be admitted.

People

CIDA official receives Quebec agriculture honor



CIDA agriculture specialist Gérard Ouellette received recognition from Quebec agronomists.
Photo: Andrew Bakó

Gérard Ouellette, acting director-general of CIDA's Natural Resources Directorate, was recently awarded the title of Commander of the Order of Agromerit for "outstanding service to agriculture" by the Order of Agronomists of Quebec.

Mr. Ouellette's work has already won him recognition in his native Quebec where he was associate dean of the Faculty of Agriculture and Food Sciences at Laval University from 1967-73.

He has also made contributions to agricultural development in the Third World as a CIDA representative at the Canadian Embassy in Tunisia from 1973-75, and as an adviser, under the auspices of the Rockefeller Foundation, studying the teaching of agronomy in Zaire.

As special adviser in agriculture and later as director of the Renewable Resources Division of the Special Advisers Branch for CIDA, Mr. Ouellette has taken part in international development missions to Ivory Coast, Senegal, Haiti, and Peru.

Reid calls for a foreign policy to combat Third World poverty

Canadian unity could be achieved if we take a strong role in combating world-wide poverty, Canadian foreign policy-maker Escott Reid told arts and science graduates during recent Carleton University convocation ceremonies.

Dr. Reid suggested in his convocation address, that "we in Canada can help to better the conditions of life of the world's poorest people — the billion or so men, women and children who do not have enough to eat, who live in hovels, who clothe themselves in rags . . . Canada has a very special creative role to play . . . An active creative foreign policy can help to unite this nation."

Mr. Reid, a distinguished Canadian public servant, received an honorary doctor of laws degree for his "innovation and service in the making of Canadian foreign policy and in the cause of international development over three decades."

His career in Canadian foreign policy dates back to 1939 when he joined the Department of External Affairs. He was an architect of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, was appointed Canadian High Commissioner to India in 1952 and Ambassador to Germany in 1958. In 1962, Dr. Reid became the director of the South Asian and Middle Eastern department of the World Bank and has been a consultant with the Canadian International Development Agency.

IDRC official named Sri Lankan high commissioner



IDRC official Ernest Corea is appointed Sri Lanka's High Commissioner. Photo: Andrew Bako

Ernest Corea, director of the publications division at the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) in Ottawa, and a journalist of 20 years' experience, has been appointed Sri Lanka's high commissioner to Canada.

Born in Colombo, Sri Lanka (formerly Ceylon), Mr. Corea came to Canada in 1975 to assume the position of special assistant to the director of publications at IDRC after serving as an information officer for the United Nations in the Congo (now Zaire) and Washington.

In his earlier career, he was editor of the *Ceylon Daily News* and features editor of *The Straits Times* in Singapore. He is secretary of the Canadian Council for South East Asian Studies and has written and broadcast extensively on international affairs and the role of communications in development.

Locusts still threatening Africa

A swarm of locusts covering a square mile can eat 14 tons of grain a day.



East Africa is facing its worst plague of locusts since the disastrous onslaught almost 20 years ago that destroyed crops and caused widespread food shortages. The locusts that have been swarming in Saudi Arabia, have now invaded several countries of East Africa.

Eighty swarms of locusts, now under surveillance in Ethiopia and Somalia, could spread further and become a major plague, infesting the Atlantic coast of northwest Africa, and spreading as far east as the Himalayas and as far south as Kenya and Tanzania.

The devastating infestations were brought under control 16 years ago by a group of countries assisted by the FAO, and remained in recession until last year. Then, suitable breeding conditions including prolonged, heavy rains on both sides of the

Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden, brought about several quickly hatched generations of the insect which multiplied in great numbers.

Disastrous as the locust outbreak is for Ethiopia, which is already a victim of famine, FAO locust-control specialists fear that swarms escaping control may spread further. On the basis of past experience, they believe the swarms will remain where they are, feeding and reproducing repeatedly.

Control efforts have been stepped up by the FAO Desert Locust Control Organization for East Africa (DLCO-EA) in Ethiopia and Somalia, in an attempt to reduce existing swarms to a minimum before they escape to the short rainy season breeding areas. If these efforts are not effective, it could be the start of a

new and self-perpetuating plague spreading progressively. Seasonal winds could carry the swarms as far as Morocco before the end of the year, and later as far as Iran and Pakistan.

National and regional locust-control services are on the alert. But after so many years of relative inactivity, the control teams now need retraining. Equipment is being replaced, insecticides replenished, and international aid mobilized.

Space-age techniques using remote sensing by satellite may soon be used to spot potential locust breeding areas, because ground survey teams often find it difficult to quickly locate these rainy, vegetated areas. The remote sensing information would allow teams to go straight to the more likely breeding areas and exterminate the insects before they have a chance to swarm. **DD**

UN General Assembly debates Third World development needs



by Jeff Endrst

Amid the generally worsening economic situation around the world, the current UN General Assembly which started sitting September 19 will once again debate the stark realities against the backdrop of grand designs for Third World development.

The 149-member assembly approaches the debate in full realization that the North-South talks have not been revived and that much of the euphoria connected with initial hopes for a new international economic order has turned into doubt and sometimes resignation.

The Committee of the Whole Assembly, established last year to breathe new life into the sputtering North-South dialogue, recently acknowledged that it could not agree on a single interpretation of its own mandate.

The Third World countries want the committee to inject new ideas into the North-South dialogue and to "negotiate." The Western industrialized countries agree that conclusions by the committees are necessary "when-ever possible." But this group insists that agreement on some issues is not possible now, and that such controversial issues must be referred to individual governments for reappraisal.

Nominally, the committee's mandate is to assist the general assembly by:

- Overseeing and monitoring the implementation of decisions and agreements reached in the negotiations on the establishment of a new international economic order;



The current UN General Assembly agenda will concentrate on Third World needs for development assistance.
UN Photo: Nagata

- Providing impetus for resolving difficulties in negotiations and for encouraging the continuing work of UN bodies;
- Serving, where appropriate, as a forum for facilitating and expediting agreement on the resolution of outstanding issues;
- Exploring and exchanging views on global economic problems and priorities.

The committee chairman, Idriss Jazairi of Algeria, pointedly reminded his members this summer that "we must succeed here because there is no other place to go." He wants the committee to act as a political body and to seek "agreed conclusions" with a sense of urgency. That implies a political will necessary to accept radical changes in the transfer of resources from developed to developing countries. But most diplomats here agree that no such changes are in prospect at the current assembly session, though not for lack of concern or recognition that the North-South disequilibrium is getting worse.

Africa appears to be a graphic example of what will happen without a change in the economic order and an intimation of the magnitude of resources needed to arrest the trend. Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim chose the July summit meeting of the Organization of African Unity in Khartoum, to drive home the message that geopolitical and ethnic rivalries may not be the continent's worst problems.

Dr. Waldheim said that Africa's balance of payments has deterior-

ated sharply. Its trade surplus has all but disappeared, foreign exchange reserves have declined, and the external debt has trebled in the past seven years and now stands at more than \$150 billion.

With few exceptions, Dr. Waldheim continued, growth rates in Africa have been poor. About 83 million Africans are now receiving what is considered to be less than the critical minimum limit in food intake.

The Sahelian drought was described by Waldheim as a permanent famine risk despite the infusion of \$550 million through UN projects. In East Africa, food supplies are being endangered by heavy locust swarms which the Food and Agriculture Organization in Rome reports could become a major plague over the years in most of Africa and as far away as the Himalayas.

There are four million refugees and displaced persons in Africa in addition to one million homeless resulting from the Ethiopia-Somalia conflict.

A week after Dr. Waldheim sounded the warning on the social, humanitarian and political consequences of these facts, Sudan itself became a major casualty to catastrophic rains which made half a million people homeless in two days. The country's economic base, which is food and cotton, was drowned on one and one-half million acres of submerged land which was to have been the "food basket" of the Arab world, through the assistance of OPEC dollars and

Western technologies.

There are currently 10 other African countries which are on the international dole.

Zambia and Mozambique have lost \$800 million and \$100 million respectively since they applied sanctions against neighbouring Rhodesia. Zambia needs \$850 million by the end of 1979, in addition to sizeable loans and aid already arranged.

Mozambique urgently requires \$35 million to forestall a foreign exchange crisis in the immediate future. In addition, it needs almost 600,000 tons of food between now and the end of 1979.

Botswana needs \$40 million to shake off its dependency on a Rhodesia-owned railroad. Lesotho is looking for \$79 million to cope with the fact that South Africa no longer allows its citizens to seek work across the border in what used to be part of South Africa but which is now called Transkei.

The Comoros needs international relief for a precarious budgetary situation which in 1977 produced a \$115 million deficit. Sao Tome and Principe needs \$21 million on top of ongoing aid for its fisheries and small industry.

Cape Verde has had a drought for more than a decade. To help it develop a new economic base, the UN estimates that the country needs \$100 million in voluntary contributions.

Guinea-Bissau wants \$38 million for training local manpower at all levels.

Djibouti seeks aid for urgent development projects worth \$130 million; and Seychelles wants to cut down on tourism dependence and develop instead some of its outlying islands. \$13 million would do it.

Similar economic situations exist in other African countries as well as in areas of Asia and Latin America. These situations will be debated by the General Assembly and it can be expected that the majority argument will be that a new international economic order is the only answer to these problems. **DD**

Jeff Endrst is Development Directions' United Nations correspondent.

Inter Press Service:
a Third World news agency

by Jeff Endrst

The UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (Unesco) describes Inter Press Service (IPS) as a co-operative of journalists dedicated to the development of the Third World. It says that IPS is also dedicated to "correcting the present imbalance of information between the North and the South."

According to Unesco which has made a detailed study of IPS, this agency "does not deny its manifestly political orientation." Its stated aim is to "promote a precise understanding of the cultural, political, social and economic reality of the Third World." With that in mind, IPS distributes specialized information dealing with:

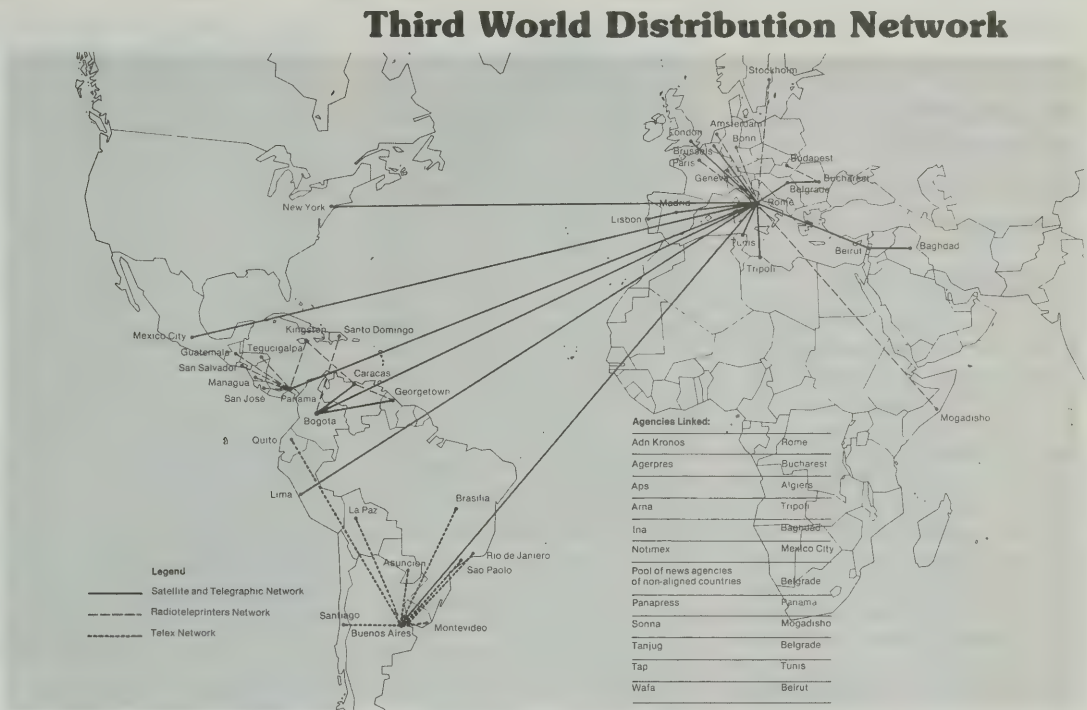
- the fundamental problems the policies of the major powers pose for the Third World;
- the relations Third World countries establish between themselves in their attempt to escape the dominance of the major powers; and
- the relations between the Third World and the industrialized countries.

Unesco has concluded from these aims that it is "manifestly clear that the agency has a definite position, or political line, which guides its operations." It says that this position is based on a definition of "the reality of the Third World."

IPS was founded in 1964 by about 40 journalists from Europe and Latin America who shared a common view of the necessity of political and social reform on the Latin American continent. In recent years, says Unesco, IPS has moved closer to the thinking of "revolutionary forces" in the newly liberated countries of Africa.

According to its own terms of reference, IPS's purpose is not to operate as a "traditional" news agency. Rather, it concentrates on analysis, background information and day-to-day events, placing them in a "larger frame of reference."

Unesco says IPS does not receive financial support from any specific country. Participating



journalists are the agency's shareholders, but their dividends are plowed into the agency's development.

IPS claims to have about 200 full-time correspondents. Its two main operation centers are Rome and Buenos Aires.

The Buenos Aires Bureau transmits a daily 16-hour service by satellite, totalling 48,000 words. It goes to subscribers throughout Latin America and Europe.

The Rome Bureau transmits about 18,000 words Monday through Saturday to Buenos Aires on European, Middle Eastern, African and Asian affairs.

Inter Press distributes its material in Spanish, English and Arabic. The latter two are sent out five hours daily. They are mostly summaries of the Spanish reports.

In tracing the history of IPS, Unesco offers the following comments:

From 1964 to 1968 the agency was mainly serving certain Latin American governments in their relations with Europe. From 1968 to 1971, the political situation changed considerably and many IPS offices were closed down. From 1971 onwards, the agency has developed into a specialized operation aiming at becoming a Third World agency and putting forward as its main policy the concept of decolonization.

A new step for Inter Press Service was the agreement in 1971 with the Yugoslav news agency Tanjug. Under the agreement, IPS undertook to distribute, through its satellite network, news prepared in Spanish by Tanjug to Latin America. In fact, Tanjug hired the IPS network but the material was credited to Tanjug, Unesco says.

Other co-operative agreements followed. During the 1970s, IPS signed up with INA, the Iraqi News Agency; Venpress, the Venezuelan News Agency; and ARNA, the Libyan News Agency.

IPS then obtained what Unesco calls international recognition when the group of 77 chose it as official reporter at their meeting in Lima in 1971, and at the 1972 UNCTAD meeting in Santiago, Chile.

The growth of the non-aligned movement has also played an important role for IPS. The non-aligned countries have developed a network of news agencies linked together through five regional pools. The decision was taken in 1973 in Algiers, and Tanjug started making bilateral agreements in 1975 in its assigned role as the co-ordinating agency for the pool. Today, the pool has some 40 participating countries.

According to Unesco, IPS offers a horizontal communication

system in which all Third World news agencies are given the opportunity of becoming partners through the journalists employed by them under the exchange arrangements.

The agency identifies three trends which it feels represent Third World interests. One trend is described as a move towards "real democracy" which could be parliamentary, one-party rule or two-party rule. Another trend is a move towards "social and internal justice through reforms which make all citizens equally capable of utilizing opportunities for development." The third trend is a move towards "real national sovereignty over national resources, including such cultural resources as information and communication." And this means, in the final analysis, says Unesco, "the co-ordination of the fight against imperialism, colonialism, racism, etc."

Finally, IPS feels it addresses itself to two audiences. The first is the Third World itself. The second is the industrialized world which IPS feels has not yet come to terms with "the identity" of the Third World. **DD**

Jeff Endrst, a member of the United Nations press gallery in New York is a regular Development Directions correspondent.

New Internationalist magazine expands its horizons in Canada

by Sharleen Bannon

One of the most respected and largest selling English language magazines on world development — New Internationalist — now has a Canadian editor with an office in Toronto funded by CIDA and the Canadian Council on International Co-operation (CCIC).

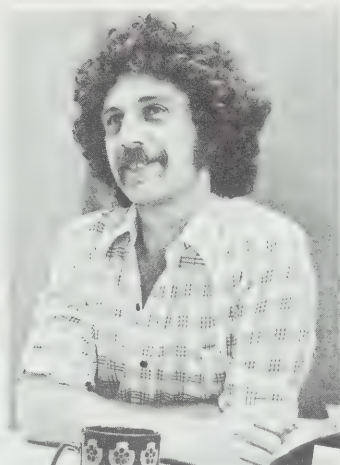
In this unusual publishing venture, the Canadian editor, Wayne Ellwood, becomes the fifth member of an editorial collective based in Wallingford England where the magazine is printed.

By funding the Canadian office of New Internationalist, CIDA and CCIC hope that their joint-venture support of this well-established international magazine will increase readership in Canada so that more Canadians will have the opportunity to examine and understand complex development issues.

The monthly magazine, started six years ago as a quarterly by three students at England's Oxford University, has become a widely-read controversial publication renowned for its in-depth investigative articles on international issues. Its aims are altruistic and its organizational structure unusual.

The goals of the magazine are clearcut and printed on the first page of every issue: "to report on the issues of world poverty, to focus attention on the unjust relationship between rich and poor worlds; to debate and campaign for the radical changes necessary within and between nations if the basic needs of all are to be met; and to bring to life the people, the ideas and the action in the fight for world development."

The task of increasing Canadian readership to 3,500 by the end of 1979 is a crucial responsibility of the Canadian editor. He has been working towards this goal — with notable success — since February. He has added 650 Canadian subscriptions to the 950 already held by Canadians



Wayne Ellwood, most recent member of the New Internationalist's editorial collective, in his Oxfam Ontario office in Toronto.

Photo: John Williamson

before he began the current drive.

Attaining the additional 2,500 subscriptions within two years is a condition of keeping the trial Canadian office in operation. It will also be a major indication whether other editorial and circulation offices outside Britain should be attempted. Australia and United States might be future locations because New Internationalist has readers and supporters in both countries. World-wide subscriptions to the magazine total about 30,000.

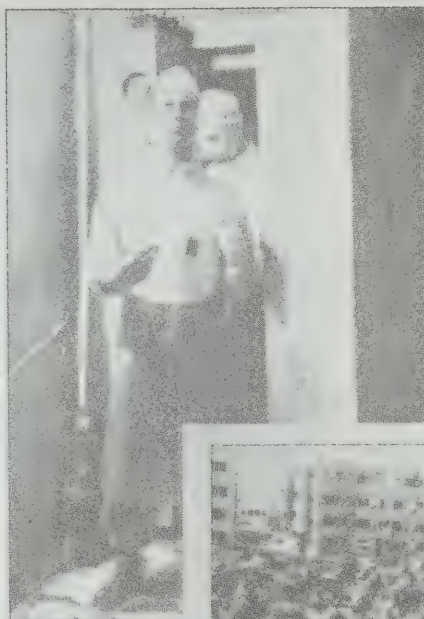
Wayne Ellwood, in a recent interview at his small office in a converted row house containing the Oxfam Ontario offices, talked about New Internationalist and his duties in the Canadian office.

The 29-year-old editor said he "can only be optimistic" that Canadian readership of this outstanding publication will continue to rise.

He admitted, however, that the Canadian magazine market is "tough to crack" but considers the \$12 annual subscription fee "competitive with other commercial publications."

In addition to the many CIDA officials and others involved in international development organizations who already find the magazine a valuable resource tool, Wayne Ellwood believes there is a sizeable untapped readership for the magazine among the "development community" and the general public.

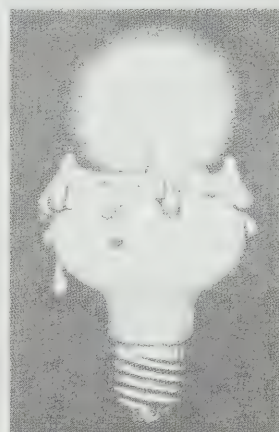
"Canadians have become turned-on to development issues in the past few years because sev-



The hatching of the m

Nuclear power, once seen as the ultimate answer, has run up against determined opposition. Many countries have shelved their nuclear ambitions, the bottom has dropped out of the market for new reactors. Faced with these problems the nuclear industry is now looking for ways to revitalize its relationships of dependence that are being forged by social and political implications of its

The soft option



eral domestic issues have sensitized them to global development issues," he explained.

He cites as examples the sale of CANDU reactors to developing countries, the Mackenzie Valley pipeline debate, Canada's role as a major supplier of food aid and the plight of native people in Canada.

He said that he was able to tap the "NGO network" in order to increase circulation. Many NGOs mailed New Internationalist promotional material to their members and many of those with newsletters carried articles about

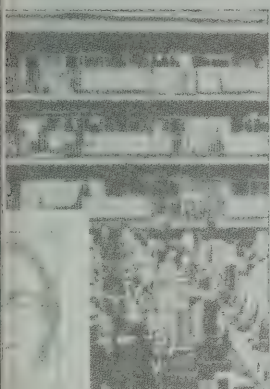
the magazine, which generated new subscriptions from among their readers.

Mr. Ellwood has many contacts among these groups and a wide knowledge of domestic issues in a national and international context. He spent four years as a writer, editor and researcher for Issue magazine published by the United Church of Canada.

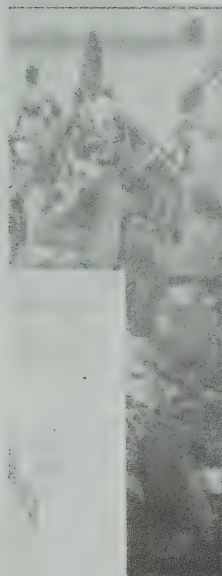
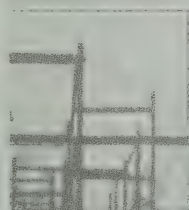
He believes this is why he got the job as Canadian editor over "a half dozen or so" other Canadian candidates. He is a graduate of the University of Toronto and spent a year in Ryerson Institute's



IN POWER



WOMEN'S DAY



journalism program. He also did some travelling in North Africa before taking his previous job with Issue.

Although he describes his job as "hectic" and admits "there's only so much one person working alone can do," he has managed to accomplish a great deal since taking over the job last November.

In addition to conducting the circulation drive he has also travelled to England three times this year to work with another member of the editorial group to compile and edit an entire issue of the

32-page magazine. He also writes articles for the magazine on a regular basis and encourages other Canadian writers on development issues to do so.

His knowledge of Canadian issues and their place in global development together with his skill as a writer and interviewer is already reflected in the magazine.

"Canadian content" in New Internationalist so far this year has included an interview he did with energy critic Amory Lovins about the potential for nuclear power as a future energy source, and an analysis of the economic, social

and environmental impact of the proposed gas pipeline from the Canadian Far North. He also wrote about the effect on Newfoundland seal hunters of protest groups trying to halt the annual harvest of baby seals.

Topics by other Canadian writers have included CANDU nuclear reactors sales to Argentina and a report on the People's Food Commission which analyzed problems in the Canadian food industry and its relationship to development in other parts of the world.

Wayne Ellwood explained that the "Canadian content" makes both Canadians and others aware of their part in international development and that some "domestic" issues have implications far beyond Canada's borders.

He describes his whirlwind visits to England this year in order to participate in the editing of the March, July, and November issues of the magazine as "exciting and exhausting."

He speaks with admiration of the other members of the editorial collective which includes Peter Adamson who founded the magazine with his wife Leslie and a friend, Dexter Tiranti, at Oxford University in 1971. Of the other editors only Graham Hancock has a background in journalism. The rest became interested in international development while students at Oxford.

Boundless energy and enthusiasm are obvious pre-requisites for this challenging job. Wayne Ellwood has both, and is undaunted by the fact that he is about 4,500 miles away from his "head office" colleagues.

"They send me tape-recorded cassettes of their editorial meetings and we keep in touch by phone every couple of weeks or so."

Although the magazine is jointly owned by the British-based Oxfam and Christian Aid, the editors write, edit, and commission the articles with no "editorial interference" from the supporting groups. Members of the co-operative are renowned for their knowledge of international development issues, and their ability to write about them in an informed, interesting and jargon-free way.

Wayne Ellwood explained that the non-profit magazine is about

70 per cent self-financing, and depends for the other 30 per cent of its funds on its supporting members such as Oxfam and the coalition of church groups.

He said that in addition to advertising and subscription revenues, the magazine also raises money by putting together information kits for various United Nations agencies on a contract basis. In addition to providing the magazine with much-needed revenue to keep up its work, such contracts are a tribute to the editors' professionalism and knowledge of development issues.

A recent example of such a kit was a folder of photographs, feature articles, graphics and information about the state of world population in 1978, sponsored by the United Nations Fund for Population Activities.

Support for the magazine's Canadian office comes from this year's \$15,000 grant from CIDA's non-governmental organizations division and \$20,000 from the CCIC's supporting members — CUSO, Oxfam, the Catholic Organization for Development and Peace and the Anglican United Churches. A second grant for the same amounts has been pledged for 1979-80. CIDA's non-governmental organizations division contributes funds to projects where some of the money is raised by the voluntary groups involved in international development.

Those who recognize the role of a well-informed "free" press on international issues cannot help but wish the New Internationalist and its Canadian editor success. By the end of 1979 the fate of at least the Canadian branch of the project will likely be decided. **DD**

Sharleen Bannon is editor of Development Directions

A profile of New Internationalist



The cover of every issue of New Internationalist proclaims the magazine's devotion to "the people, the ideas, the action in the fight for world development."

It addresses these aims every month by exploring, debating and documenting a particular development issue affecting a large sector of humanity.

Although the magazine is mainly concerned with Third World problems, it is "internationalist" in that articles are placed in a global context in which the interdependence of the developing world and the West is examined.

Recent issues have explored such topics as the growth of cities, technology in the developing world, the energy crisis, and international financial institutions. The magazine has also devoted itself to comprehensive series on the politics, social conditions and major developmental problems facing such regions as the Horn of Africa and Latin America. Occasionally, it is an ideology or issue that is explored.

An example of the magazine's approach to a development topic is typified by the "racism" issue published in January. The editors proclaim that "the magazine looks calmly and objectively at the evidence — social, political, medical — that racist and liberal alike hardly dare face."

This "calm" and "objective" look at racism promised by the editors includes nine articles from various perspectives on the issue in the readable style that characterizes the in-depth treatment given by authors well-versed in their topic.

Each issue's editorial presents a general discussion of the topic to be examined in the magazine's 32 pages. The "racism" issue was compiled and edited by two of the five members of the editorial group that decides on the content and policy of the magazine. The group works out of the magazine's headquarters at Wallingford England, a few miles from Oxford University.

The graphic material in this particular issue is representative of other issues but tailored to the racism topic — boxed quotations from various British statesmen on that country's immigration policies in relation to race, and a point-form, numbered guide on how to evaluate children's books for racial bias. Photographs and a brief description of the three major races provided an easy-to-understand summary of the basis of the racism debate.

The combination of visually appealing and informative illustrations help make the magazine's weighty subjects more easily understood, as do the numerous charts, graphs, maps and boxed

sidebars that often accompany a lengthy article.

The international scope of each issue is typified by the range in the "racism" issue, which includes an article on the black power movements of the United States and the current state of race relations in that country. Australia's immigration policies towards non-whites are evaluated by an Australian journalist, and Dexter Tiranti, one of the magazine's editors, traces the evolution of the theory and practice of racism.

Short items, entitled "There's more to Brazil than coffee" written by a member of the Liberation Brazil Committee and "There's more to Panama than a canal" written by a member of Apartado, take a critical look at these countries' economies in light of ruling national and international élites.

Such items by members of groups organized to rally support against some injustice or for a developmental goal are a common feature of most issues of the magazine. They reflect the editorial sympathies of the publishers and the church, labour union, and volunteer citizens groups that support the magazine editorially and financially.

The inside front and back covers carry advertising reflecting the interests of the magazine's readership and supporters: job openings in development agen-

cies, journals on development topics, and appeals to join groups fighting for worthy causes. Other advertisements scattered throughout the magazine are mainly for publications on development topics or on the work of various development groups.

There is also a book review section where books on international development issues are reviewed together with a "recommended reading list" on the same topic as the magazine's special issue. The illustrated table of contents gives a short description of each item in that issue and the last page is devoted to letters to the editor. Correspondence often comes from continental Europe, Africa, the U.S. and Canada in addition to Britain.

The cover is usually a striking colour photograph of a Third World scene illustrating the theme of the issue.

Occasionally, most of the issue will be a comic-book-style series of cartoon articles on a development theme suitable for adults as well as children, such as the September 1977 issue on food.

For more information on New Internationalist or to order back copies or a subscription (\$12 a year) write: New Internationalist, 175 Carlton Street, Toronto, Canada M5A 2K3. **DD**

"Jeune Afrique:" an African magazine on African-related issues



Jeune Afrique, which describes itself as an independent international weekly, is one of the most widely-read French-language magazines dealing with major development issues. As its name indicates, this publication is mainly concerned with the African continent and the significant political, social and economic changes taking place there.

But Jeune Afrique is not exclusively devoted to development. It is primarily a magazine of opinion, without any political allegiance, which attempts to express the views of Africans on questions of direct concern to them, either in Africa or elsewhere.

With an average circulation of 85,000, this weekly magazine of approximately 90 pages is read for the most part in black Africa (43.6 per cent) and in the Arab world (41 per cent with 34.7 per cent in North Africa and 6.5 per cent in the Middle East). It started publication in October 1960, soon after the establishment of a 90 per cent African-owned newspaper and publishing company, Groupe Jeune Afrique, which produces it. Its founder was Béchir Ben Yahmed, former Tunisian minister of information, who is still its managing editor.

A typical issue of this weekly, published in Paris, contains following: on Africa — an editorial;

a background article on a major problem which has repercussions beyond the borders of the country directly concerned (the Rhodesian question, for example); short articles on current events in various countries; brief reports on politics, economics and so forth; and a portrait of a political figure. On the world — commentaries on major economic and political issues, with a stress on the developing world; and a selection of articles from the international press dealing particularly with Africa.

In addition, Jeune Afrique regularly publishes three series of well-documented special issues. Two of these are concerned with major African companies and institutions. For example, the June 21, 1978 issue reported on Air Afrique, an airline company run by 10 African countries. The July 5, 1978 issue dealt with the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (ABEDA).

Another series describes the political, sociological, economic and cultural life of various countries and regions, including Quebec in the November 4, 1977 issue. Canada's development assistance policies were highlighted in the May 17, 1978 issue.

This issue also contained an interview with president of CIDA, Michel Dupuy, on Canada's strategy for development co-operation. Other articles included an overview of the country, a brief discussion of domestic and foreign policy, an analysis of the economic situation, a description of the role of the international service of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation in Africa, a report on the activities of the IDRC, and an explanation of Canada's position in regard to the North-South dialogue by Secretary of State for External Affairs, Don Jamieson.

The special issues on Quebec and Canada constitute the only two major Canadian contributions (literary, financial or otherwise) made to Jeune Afrique so far. The magazine receives no grants in Canada, where approximately 5,000 copies of each issue are sold, for the most part in Quebec. The magazine's audience is largely in embassies and in governmental and non-governmental agencies dealing with development and international affairs, in addition to institutions of higher learning — particularly scholarship holders from the Third World studying at Canadian universities.

The Canadian office of Jeune Afrique was vacated late in 1977 — and has not yet been staffed — when the correspondent, Raphael Mergui, was called back to the Paris head office to become assistant chief-editor.

The Groupe Jeune Afrique also publishes the "Annuaire Afrique et Moyen Orient" and, for the past year, "Marchés Nouveaux," a monthly periodical appearing in both French and English which presents a different country and its market in each issue. Les Editions Jeune Afrique, another branch of the group, publishes various guides, atlases, a collection entitled "Grands Livres," and an encyclopedia called "Les Africains." **DD**

Wipes out B...
Mr 2006 birthday this year
Gay



Somoza declares
he won't resign

THIRD WORLD COVERAGE IN CANADIAN NEWSPAPERS

by Dennis Schroeder

Foreign coverage in most Canadian newspapers leaves much to be desired. Coverage of Third World affairs and issues of international development is even more inadequate.

A study conducted last year for the International Development Research Centre gives some indications of what Canadian newspapers and magazines are — or are not — doing in their coverage of the Third World.

International news clearly ranks as a low priority for most editors and publishers. In a questionnaire sent to newspapers, respondents were asked to rank international, national, regional/provincial, and local news in order of priority. Of the 34 daily newspapers and 174 community weeklies that responded, international coverage clearly ranked lowest. This was also true for farm publications, while most respondents from religious publications, consumer magazines and business publications put it in third place. Only editors of foreign language publications give international coverage top priority, and for the majority of them, news from the "home country" is most important.

Newspapers do not devote much news space to international copy. Most questionnaire respondents from daily newspapers estimated that international coverage occupied between 10 and 30 per cent of the space. It is quite probable that the average for all dailies is near 20 per cent. If so, the amount of international coverage has definitely declined. A study done in 1969 showed that 30 daily newspapers devoted 32.9 per cent of their space to foreign news. A content analysis of six daily newspapers last year — the Kamloops Sen-

tinel, the Saskatoon Star-Phoenix, the Ottawa Journal, the Montreal Gazette, Le Devoir, and the Fredericton Gleaner — showed that Third World items occupied between 2.2 and 8.3 per cent of the average "news hole."

Readers can turn to few other Canadian publications to fill the gap in foreign coverage. Estimates from most community newspapers, farm and business publications and consumer magazines showed that they carry even less international news than dailies.

The survey showed that the number of items of all kinds — news reports, news briefs, backgrounders, general features, editorials, cartoons, letters, and photos — related to the Third World were not numerous. In daily newspapers, they ranged from a high average of 10 items an issue down to a low of 3.3 items an issue. Among non-dailies, a church publication did best with an average of 11 items an issue, while a community newspaper had an average of only one item every three issues.

Of the items used in the daily newspapers, 52 per cent were news reports and another 20 per cent were news briefs. Backgrounders accounted for 15 per cent and general features for about seven per cent of all items. Other items, such as editorials, columns, photos, cartoons, and letters, ranged from just more than two per cent to less than one per cent.

Thus, on an average day, an average Canadian daily newspaper would carry about a half dozen news reports or briefs dealing with the Third World in some way, and it would also have one news backgrounder or general feature.

Both the questionnaire and the content analysis revealed that reports of political

and economic affairs, political upheavals, international crimes and personalities in the news dominate the Third World news coverage, while population issues, urban problems, energy issues, medicine, scientific research and education get almost no coverage.

The quality of coverage is more difficult to measure than quantity. All daily newspapers rely primarily on the major wire services — AP, Reuter, UPI — for reports of breaking news stories in other countries. Some of the larger newspapers make use of the services of the New York Times, the Christian Science Monitor, the Economist and other sources for well written backgrounders and features. Aside from articles originating with Southam News Service and the Globe and Mail, there is very little Canadian copy dealing with the Third World in any newspapers. In general, there is some good material available, but most newspapers use it only occasionally if at all.

Related to the quality of material used by newspapers is the question of bias in their coverage. CIDA, as the government agency handling most of Canada's foreign aid program, has been the object of repeated attacks from the news media regarding its spending policies. While legitimate criticisms of CIDA's policies can be made, the agency's media relations officers have become convinced that the media is simply "out to get CIDA," even though the truth suffers in the process.

For example, stories — such as the ones about Idi Amin barbecuing cows sent as a Canadian aid project, the "boat that wouldn't float," and the snowplows sold to Africa — continue to surface in the press although they have been repeatedly refuted by CIDA.

CIDA media relations officer John de Bondt said he deals with two types of journalists. There are the serious, hard-working ones who accept the information given to them without doing enough digging. Then, there are the "scandal-mongers" who dig for information, but are prejudiced. They only use material that proves the point they are trying to make.

If foreign coverage in Canadian newspapers was weak one year ago when the study was carried out, there are indications that it may be declining even more. The *Ottawa Journal*, which had probably the best Third World coverage among the newspapers studied last year, has undergone a major shake-up of its senior editorial staff, apparently because it was losing the circulation war to the rival *Ottawa Citizen*. The newspaper intends to go the way of most other Canadian dailies by increasing its local coverage.

The *Journal's* associate editor, Bruce Yemen, who recently took over responsibility for the editorial and op-ed pages, pleads that the newspaper should not be judged in advance of its change in direction. But, unless the average number of pages in each issue increases, it is inevitable that something will have to be cut if local coverage is increased. Most likely, international coverage will be first to be trimmed. Already, Gemini News Service, one of the few that offers a Third World perspective on events, has been dropped by the *Journal*. Gwynne Dyer, a former Canadian now living in England who writes competent analyses of issues around the world, may also be on the way out. Meanwhile, the *New York Times Service* and the *Globe and Mail*, which are considered to be more authoritative, may be used more often — if space is available.

According to Charles Lynch of Southam News Service, interest in foreign affairs on the part of readers has diminished noticeably in the past 10 years. He offers two possible explanations for the decline. Either Canadians are "dozing off" and becoming more inward-looking, or Canada has become a more interesting place.

"I argue that the appetite for — and volume of — domestic news has taken over the minds of readers," he said.

He added that interest in foreign news peaked at the time of the Second World War. Also, British politics were covered extensively by Canadian newspapers at one time. Now, there is even less about U.S. politics than there was in the past.

Mr. Lynch gave an example of the ironic lack of interest in what is happening abroad. He said that, although Japan is now Canada's second most important



Newspapers and television usually portray the Third World as being conflict-riddled or disaster-ridden while ignoring the less sensational aspects of their societies.

trading partner, there is virtually no coverage of that country in the Canadian news media. There is not a single Canadian news bureau in Japan.

He said there are now probably fewer Canadian correspondents abroad than at any time in the past 30 years. One side effect is that the number of Canadian journalists with first-hand knowledge and experience of conditions abroad is declining. Southam went against the trend, opening a bureau in Nairobi about two years ago. But at the same time, it closed its Peking bureau.

Why is foreign — including Third World — coverage declining in Canadian newspapers? One possible reason is that editors have — as Charles Lynch argues — perceived changes in the interests of their readers. They point to readership surveys showing interest in international affairs to be very low. While it seems logical that people are most concerned about events close to home, the arguments are not entirely convincing. Some surveys show interest in foreign events to be greater than interest in national politics. Yet, there has certainly been no reduction in coverage of the Ottawa scene. Meanwhile, the *Ottawa Journal*

had announced its shift to more local coverage even before it had carried out a survey of its readers' interests.

Part of the reason why foreign coverage seems to get shortchanged may be that there are problems in the structure of the news gathering system. In most newsrooms, the flow of news is governed by the universal desk. In effect, a team of technicians sifts through the mounds of copy, pulling out what will appear in print as "the news" that day. It is not unlike a factory assembly line. Some critics of this structure argue that, if newspapers had specialized desks with editors who had knowledge and experience in particular subjects, not only foreign coverage, but coverage of a whole range of other subjects — such as science, medicine, education — could be improved.

The external sources of news are another part of the problem. Most newspapers rely on a few major wire services which concentrate on covering the breaking news stories in hot spots around the world. Analysis of events by the wire services is often skimpy and superficial. The *New York Times Service* provides good backgrounders and anal-



yses, but why must we all look at the world through the eyes of the New York Times and a few other newspaper services?

The problem of getting the news is particularly serious in the Third World. Living conditions are not good in many countries and correspondents face many logistical problems related, for example, to travel and filing copy. In addition, there are political barriers. Western correspondents are not as welcome in many countries as they once were. They may be subjected to harassment by government officials, and may have to work under government-imposed or self-imposed censorship. One result is that the number of resident correspondents in Third World countries is declining and there is an increase in the amount of "fly in, fly out" journalism, where a local taxi driver and one or two foreign residents provide the background information for an analysis of events in a particular country.

Can the problems be overcome? One solution would be for newspapers to develop more alternative sources of news from the Third World, both to improve the flow of news and to get a bet-

ter balance. One such alternative is Inter Press Service, a co-operative of journalists dedicated to development of the Third World. It has base operations in Rome and Buenos Aires and has about 200 full-time correspondents. Through the Yugoslav agency, Tanjug, it operates a news pool with about 40 participating countries. [See Inter Press news feature, p. 7]

So far, most Western newspaper editors have been suspicious of this organization, regarding it as a government-backed propaganda machine. Yet, Third World spokesmen continue to complain that Western news agencies do not provide balanced coverage of events in the Third World. An editor concerned about the validity of his sources could do worse than consider using both types of sources.

On the domestic scene, changes can be made too. To some extent, a long-term educational process is needed to change the attitudes of publishers, editors and journalists concerning the Third World. One such effort is the Program for International Development Reporting, operated jointly by journalism schools at the University of Western Ontario and Laval

University. [It is described elsewhere in this issue of Development Directions.]

Few editors are daring enough to go against conventional wisdom regarding international coverage. One is Colin Alexander, who founded the Sunday Post of Canada in Ottawa in July. Mr. Alexander hopes to develop the new publication into a serious Sunday newspaper catering to a well-educated readership across Canada. Among the newspapers he admires are Montreal's *Le Devoir* and the *Telegraph* in Britain.

In its first issues, the Sunday Post had extensive foreign coverage, including coverage of the Third World. This was partly a result of a shortage of correspondents dealing with the Canadian scene, but Mr. Alexander said he intends to continue to have strong international coverage even after Canadian coverage has been increased. He does not intend his paper to "be all things to all people" as do many dailies.

"Newspapers are becoming more and more advertising baskets and less and less newspapers," he said.

He believes that readers are being short-changed on information about what's happening around the world.

The Sunday Post gets its foreign news from UPI, AFP, the Dow Jones-Wall Street Journal Service, the Christian Science Monitor, and the Sunday Times Service, and makes use of several correspondents, most of them based in Britain.

The tone of some of the articles — for example, an interview with a Canadian doctor serving in the Rhodesian army — reflects Mr. Alexander's view that the plight of whites and moderate blacks in Rhodesia should be viewed more sympathetically. As the former publisher of a newspaper in Yellowknife, he also draws parallels between the situation in southern Africa and the situation in the Canadian North.

It is too early to tell whether the newspaper will succeed — or even survive — but it is a brave attempt to provide an alternative look at the world for Canadian readers.

Overall, the situation regarding foreign coverage in Canadian newspapers looks grim at present. But it is not a static situation. If a few editors take the initiative to improve both foreign and domestic coverage, and can show that they are not losing readers, the present trends could be reversed. **DD**

Dennis Schroeder is a freelance writer who has worked with the National Development Corporation in Tanzania and conducted a survey on international news coverage in Canadian newspapers for the Ottawa-based International Development Research Centre.

DRIPP

rural development in Haiti

The integrated regional development program of Petit-Goâve and Petit-Trou-de-Nippes, called "Le DRIPP" (le programme de développement régional intégré de Petit-Goâve et Petit-Trou-de-Nippes) by the Haitians and Canadians involved in it, is aimed at developing the skills and infrastructures that will eventually enable the mainly rural population of this 1,200 sq. km. region to become self-sufficient. More than 300,000 people live in this territory, situated in the south Haitian peninsula 60 km. from Port-au-Prince, the capital city.

The program, begun more than a year ago after a three-year study, is funded by a \$21 million CIDA grant. Already it has a number of completed projects to its credit. So far, agriculture has had the highest priority, with an emphasis on improved agricultural methods, soil conservation and irrigation. The use of improved techniques has resulted in a considerable increase in corn production. The former average yield of 330 kg. per hectare has increased to 3,745 kg. The harvest of rice and sorghum has also reached impressive proportions.

Several thousand small farmers and their families will soon be able to earn enough to make a living.

Improving health is also a major concern of the DRIPP project. The provision of clean drinking water supplies, the construction and staffing of dispensaries and clinics and a general improvement of the sanitation of the region, have begun in several regional centres.

Education hasn't been forgotten either. Several schools are under construction with the support of the Haitian government. A large education complex with a strongly rural orientation is nearly completed. In the field of technical infrastructures, access roads are the major task and have already been opened.

The encouragement of local participation and planning of development projects is a major goal of DRIPP. Development of small industries and extermination of the large rat population are among the many types of projects touching all aspects of regional life that make up the Canada-Haiti program. DD



McBRIDE COMMISSION



A PROGRESS REPORT ON UNESCO'S STUDY OF GLOBAL COMMUNICATIONS PROBLEMS

by Sharleen Bannon

A Canadian broadcaster is among the 16 members of the Unesco International Commission for the Study of Communications Problems. An interim report on the work of the group is to be presented at the upcoming Unesco general assembly session.

Betty Zimmerman, the director of CBC's International Relations is the only woman and the only Canadian on the commission which began its work in December 1977. Unesco's director-general Amadou-Mahtar M'Bow convened the commission to study the current state of communication with particular attention to problems relating to the free and balanced flow of information internationally.

A major task of the commission is to provide the necessary background studies in order to integrate communications issues into plans for a "new international economic order" and to foster plans for a "new world information order."

Commission members

The 16 members of the Unesco commission for the study of communications problems include academics, politicians, civil servants, journalists, a novelist and a publisher. There are two commissioners each from North America, Latin America, Soviet Union, Europe, the Arab nations and black Africa. There are three from Asia and the chairman is career diplomat Sean McBride from Ireland.

North America:

Elie Abel, dean of the Columbia School of Journalism in New York, a former European correspondent for NBC news and a former assistant city editor of the Montreal Gazette and reporter for the Windsor Star, represents United States. Betty Zimmerman, broadcaster and director of CBC international relations and a former film, radio and television producer, represents Canada.

Latin America:

Juan Somavia, Chilean-born executive director of the Latin American Institute for Transnational Studies in Mexico City

This interim report to be discussed at the upcoming Unesco session, together with suggestions and comments emanating from this debate, is designed to shape the future direction of the commission's further enquiries.

The commission has become known as the "McBride Commission" after its chairman, Sean McBride, the Irish statesman and journalist, winner of both the Nobel and Lenin peace prizes and founder of Amnesty International.

The work of the 16 commissioners has been supplemented by a number of research documents which have been integrated into the interim report prepared by the commission secretariat. Other research documents are being prepared by consultants to the commission and by the commission's secretariat for incorporation into the final report, due in mid-1979.

The final report is to analyse and clarify communications issues in order to make recommendations so that Unesco could, in conjunction with other UN agencies and individual countries, seek to rectify global problems in the communications field. Some of the commission's major discussions to date are reflected in the almost 100 pages of its interim report. They include:

- access to information is unbalanced and unequal, both within individual countries and in the international community;
- the information flow is one-way from the developed to the developing countries, culturally unbalanced and repetitive in the news values it enshrines;

and Gabriel Garcia-Marquez, novelist and journalist from Colombia are the commissioners.

USSR:

Leonid Zamyatin, director-general of Tass news service and Bogdan Osolnik, vice-president of Yugoslavia's federal council and member of the information committee of the Yugoslav Commission for Co-Operation with Unesco are the commissioners.

Arab nations:

Mustapha Masmoudi, Tunisia's information minister and president of the Inter-governmental Council on Co-ordination of Information Between Non-Aligned Countries together with Gamal el-Oteifi, deputy speaker of Egypt's national assembly are the commissioners.

Black Africa:

Elebe Ma Ekonzo, director-general of Agence Zaire Presse and F. Agparuaro Omu, a Nigerian state education commissioner are the representatives.

- news saturation occurs primarily in urban and semi-urban contexts, deadening people's attitudes to major issues and events; and

- information transmitted by transnational agencies often relates to alien realities isolated from the issues and requirements of the national culture and national development of many Third World countries.

The report also outlines observations on the impact of newspapers, radio and television on shaping the culture of any society they pervade. It discusses the implications of media ownership on the messages they carry and makes various philosophical and sociological observations on the nature and role of communications in modern society.

They are Associated Press (AP), United Press International (UPI), Reuter, Agence France Presse (AFP), and Tass. Each has more than 100 bureaus and thousands of full-time staff and part-time correspondents turning out news 24 hours a day to thousands of national agencies, newspapers, radio and television stations in more than 100 countries.

Not surprisingly, the report observes that the news agencies have become a major source of supply and circulation of information inside countries and between them.

An outgrowth of this is the promise by the commission to devote attention to the development of communications infrastructures and the creation of national and regional news agencies and to assist the multiplication of news

Asia:

Michio Nagai from Japan, an editorial writer for the Asahi Shimbun who is also director of the East-West Communication Institute of Hawaii and member of the Japanese Unesco national commission; Mochtar Lubis of Indonesia, a former editor and publisher of the daily newspaper Indonesia Raya and founder-trustee of the Press Foundation of Asia in Manila; and George Verghese of India, journalist, Gandhi Peace Foundation Fellow and head of the Committee on Autonomy for Broadcasting in India, are the commissioners.

Europe:

Hubert Beuve-Méry of France, founder of the Paris newspaper Le Monde, and Johannes Pronk, Holland's minister of development are the commissioners.

The People's Republic of China declined an invitation to be on the commission and Canada's original delegate, Marshall McLuhan, withdrew from the commission due to other commitments prior to its first meeting. DD

sources in order to prevent both restrictions and imbalance in news circulation.

However, the commission also notes the trend towards co-operation between developing countries in order to attempt to counteract the Western-dominated news agencies through the founding of a news pool by the non-aligned countries in 1975. It also notes the founding of Inter Press in 1964 to provide news services supporting political and social reform in Latin America [see also p. 00] and that the Caribbean news agency, CANA, was begun in 1975 with the help of UNDP and Unesco. It also notes that there are moves among some African, Arab and Asian states to form similar news networks.

It notes with alarm, however, that as of now, at least 40 countries have no news agencies including 12 African countries and 12 countries in Latin America.

What news flow there is in developing countries tends to be from the "North" to the "South."

Perhaps the heavy and detailed analysis of the press was due to the commission's second meeting in Stockholm in April this year being preceded by an international seminar on the infrastructure of news collection and dissemination in the world attended by more than 100 representatives of major news services including wire services, newspapers, radio and television organizations.

In addition to the problems with the monopoly of news flow by a few news services and the need for more newspapers, it notes major problems facing the Third World from a technological perspective.

They include scarcity of financial resources, lack of qualified technicians, unbridled competition between suppliers, underdeveloped industrial capacity in Third World countries for the production of communications equipment and the insufficient readiness in developed countries to provide assistance in these areas as part of international co-operation.

In its final report, the commission pledges to devote some time to the question of satellite transmission of television and such other media of mass communication as graphic arts, posters, comics, recording industry, slow-scan television and video tapes.

Advertising and its role in communication is another area of interest and concern to the commission. It sees advertising as a possible danger for the cultural identity and self-realization of many developing countries. Its final report is likely to consider this issue more deeply.

Another topic the commission plans to tackle in its final report is the individual's right to communicate and how this can be guaranteed and safeguarded. It also plans further study of the use of information media to reach educational goals.

The commission also plans to come to grips with the all-important issue of "freedom of information." It places special emphasis on this issue because it believes the concept of free flow of information has changed character in the past 30 or so years and requires careful re-assessment.

The future prospects for a "new world information order" hang in the balance of the commissioners' final report. When the commission completes its analyses of facts and trends in the communications field in an international context it may become the most valuable document of its type compiled to date.

[For the two reports by individual commissioners which have been appended to the interim report, see p. 20 and 21]

[For comments by Canadian commission member Betty Zimmerman and Canada's original delegate, Marshall McLuhan, see p. 22 and 23.] **DD.**

Sharleen Bannon is editor of Development Directions. She is a former editor of the Labour Gazette and has been a writer and editor for newspapers, radio, television, and a news service.

THE THIRD WORLD NEWS IMBALANCE PROBLEMS

The progress of the so-called non-aligned states towards identifying their information and communications needs is contained in a report by McBride Commission member Bogdan Osolnik of Yugoslavia.

The 35-page report which complements the commission's main interim report and the individual report by the Tunisian commissioner, Mustapha Masmoudi, concentrates on the efforts to date by Third World countries to counteract the Western-dominated news and information flow.

The report notes the optimistic trend towards improvement in the Third World countries' press pool begun in 1975 which now has 44 participating news agencies from non-aligned nations.

The Osolnik report also notes that progress on co-operation between the radio and television organizations of non-

aligned countries was made at last October's conference in Sarajevo.

Also, the Inter-Governmental Council for Co-ordination of Information Among Non-aligned Countries in Tunis last year and in Havana earlier this year started working towards a united approach to improve the flow of information between and among the non-aligned states.

The report warns, however, that the greatest challenge now that a clear-cut view of the problems the developing countries face in this area are known, is how current constraints and differences of opinion on the solutions can be overcome.

The report also warns that despite the assistance and good intentions of Unesco, the McBride Commission and various other agencies and individuals, the non-aligned countries must improve their own bilateral, regional and inter-regional links by co-ordinating their activities through the United Nations and other international forums.

In addition, it also outlines the issues the commission plans to tackle in its two meetings next year prior to the drafting of its final report.

The commission's mandate specified it was to meet five times during its two-year term in order to make a final report. This short time-frame for this enormous task seems to be an attempt to come to grips with the unfinished business begun by the 1948 International Conference on Freedom of Information which the interim report notes has been "regularly postponed" for the past 20 years with "little discussion and little development."

The complexity of the challenge and the massive implication of such an undertaking make this understandable.

The commission's interim report raises the problem it plans to tackle in its final report on global communications.

Because of the breadth of its field of enquiry, the commission will have to make a number of concrete conclusions, observations and recommendations in order to achieve its goals. Among the questions it will have to come to grips with is whether it considers communications a vital prerequisite of sovereign nationhood and whether Third World countries require special assistance in communications matters in order for them to be released from a state of neo-colonial dependence on the North.

Despite some wordily philosophical passages, the document does come to grips with some concrete problems and issues, and analyses some current situations.

It notes the trend towards the transnational ownership of electronic technology and the increasing tendency of a few developed countries to control most of the news services.

The report says the commission plans to study the efficacy of codes of conduct for international practitioners in the field of communications. The protection of journalists in the carrying out of their regular professional duties with special measures for the protection of foreign correspondents on dangerous missions is also being looked into.

It also plans to recommend steps to be taken at the national and regional level to limit the negative effects of the multinationalization of communications and to establish safeguards to future expansions of this trend.

The report notes that although there now are national news agencies in about 120 countries and territories, five wire services dominate the world's news by virtue of the size and technological strength of their systems.

It notes that a new world information order will mean a radical change of the current situation by abolishing unjustifiable differences, injustice and foreign domination in the information sphere and by the evolution of new relations between the developing and the developed nations.

The report also notes that despite the exceptional progress of technology for the dissemination of information, most of the world is unable to link up with the media for the reception and dissemination of information and ideas.

The report notes that the Stockholm international seminar that preceded the McBride Commission's second meeting was attended by representatives of more than 100 news agencies around the world and was a forum for the expression of complaints by the non-aligned countries. Many of them are forced to communicate with each other through their former colonial capitals.

A major and justified complaint, Mr. Osolnik believes, is that most Third World countries are completely dependent on some of the most highly industrialized developed countries for the purchase of communications equipment. The rapid progress of technology and the rise of new needs, especially the development of consumer demands, is increasing this dependence.

He notes that in 1972, Unesco took the first step toward the regulation of satellite broadcasting with its Declaration of Guiding Principles for the Use of Satellite Broadcasting, one of the first international documents on communications that stressed not only the

principle of the free flow of information but also the need for the respect of certain international rules of behavior regarding this mode of communication.

The report concludes that a "new information order" can develop only as part of the overall social and international process through the concerted co-operation of both the developed and the developing countries.

Mr. Osolnik's report is to be appended to the commission's main interim report to be discussed at the Unesco general assembly meeting in October-November this year. DD

BLUEPRINT FOR A "NEW WORLD INFORMATION ORDER"

Some suggestions of what both developed and developing countries can do to help establish a "new international information order" are contained in an individual report prepared by McBride Commission member Mustapha Masmoudi of Tunisia.

The Masmoudi report presents an outline of developing country demands to reorder the global system of communications and information with particular reference to news agencies, wire services, telecommunications and radio.

The report presents the demand of the Third World for more access to communications and information channels, particularly news, as a human right enshrined in the UN's Universal Declaration of the Rights of Man and other international statements of individual and national rights.

It amplifies and reiterates the main contentions of the commission's interim report that the economic and social development of many Third World countries hinge on a reordering of news and information flows that will end the Third World's status as a mere consumer of transnational and Western-dominated news and information.

In his report, Mr. Masmoudi, a former president of the Union of African Press Agencies, charges that "the transnational agencies control the circulation of information as if it were their right." He questions, in particular, the right of certain powerful Western nations to control satellite communications in their private interests.

Mr. Masmoudi, now Tunisia's secretary of state for information, also charges that daily events in developing countries

are reported to other developing countries only through the transnational media.

This results in the ironic situation of some Third World communities that are geographically close to each other knowing each other mainly through news transmitted through the transnational information systems. Moreover, the Masmoudi report asserts such information channels often show countries to each other in the most unfavorable light by emphasizing strikes, crises, political turmoil and catastrophes of various types.

The report also contends that communications between two points inside developing countries are often more expensive than between two developed countries. "Nothing can justify the fact that the same communication can cost less when it passes from a developed to a developing country than when it travels the opposite way."

"How can the big press agencies justify the privilege that gives them, because of the large volume of news, fulltime use of circuits at a cheaper rate than that charged Third World users for one hour of transmission time?"

The report's specific recommendations toward creating a new international information order include the following:

Developing countries should:

- formulate national communications policies and integrate them with social and economic programs;
- discuss methods of exchanging information with other nearby developing countries;
- develop international centres and systems of communication and information;
- consolidate and improve news exchange systems already formed by the non-aligned countries;
- help least-developed countries improve their communications systems;
- inform news agencies in developed countries of the gaps and imperfections of the current information systems and work with Western journalists for improved news coverage of the Third World;
- improve training of communications practitioners in Third World universities;
- work towards the reduction of monopolies by the big press agencies and satellite communications systems through international agreement.

The developed countries should:

- reserve more space in newspapers and radio and television programs for news about developing countries;

- subscribe to news and information services supplied by Third World news pools to present a Third World view on issues affecting developing nations;
- ensure news correspondents are well-versed in the issues of a developing country they are writing on so they can correctly assess the problems and pre-occupations of the Third World.

International agencies should:

- help developing countries profit from international forums in their struggle for a new international economic order;
- promote research on the implication of transfer of technology in the communications field;
- draw up international agreements guaranteeing Third World countries more access to radio channels and access to satellite telecommunications systems, lowering telegraph rates between developing countries and lowering the telegraph rates from developing countries to the developed countries;
- convene international meetings of Third World and Western journalists to discuss better ways of handling news reporting.

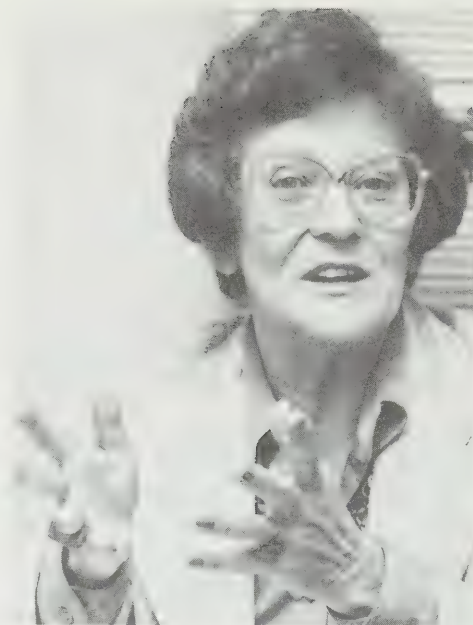
This report, together with the one prepared by Bogdan Osolnik of Yugoslavia, is to be appended to the commission's interim report to be tabled for discussion at the upcoming Unesco general assembly meeting. **DD**

AN INTERVIEW WITH THE CANADIAN COMMISSIONER,

Betty Zimmerman, Canada's representative on the 16-person Unesco International Commission for the Study of Communications Problems, in a recent interview talked about the commission and what she thinks Canada can bring to it.

The director of Canadian Broadcasting Corporation International Relations says she feels one of the most important contributions Canada can make is its record of impartiality in assessing major issues and suggesting solutions to the world's communications problems.

Unesco invited each commissioner to participate because of the individual's expertise as an academic, government official, media practitioner, or a combination of two or more of these qualifications.



Betty Zimmerman, director of CBC international relations and Canadian delegate to the Unesco commission on international communications problems, hopes to bring the commission an impartial voice in drafting a potentially controversial blueprint for a "new international information order" to benefit Third World countries.

CIDA photo: Andrew Bako

The former CBC public affairs radio and television producer replaces the renowned Canadian communications theorist and author, Marshall McLuhan, who withdrew prior to the commission's first meeting last December due to other commitments.

Ms. Zimmerman is quick to point out, however, that it was by no means automatic that when Marshall McLuhan withdrew that another Canadian would be selected to replace him.

Neither the appointment of another Canadian delegate nor the appointment of Ms. Zimmerman in particular is too surprising, however. She is no stranger to international meetings on communications issues and has been Canadian delegate to such forums as the Commonwealth Broadcasting Association and the Asia-Pacific Broadcasting Union. In addition to the personal expertise she can bring, Canadian representation on the commission is appropriate because this country is a pioneer in satellite communications and active internationally in various broadcasting groups. Canada is also making significant contributions to the training of Third World communications professionals [see articles p.25 and 26].

Canada has also gone through its own version of the McBride Commission in its 1970 Senate Special Committee on Mass Media and the 1961 Royal Commission on Publications.

Ms. Zimmerman says she hopes she can bring to the commission on behalf of

Canada, "our sympathies and empathies, not only because we can well understand the problems of imbalance of news and program flow but also because we share with many other countries the important heritage of respect for freedom of the press."

As the only woman on the commission, she says she feels a special responsibility to point out the needs of women — particularly in developing countries — in the new international communications order for which the commission is laying the groundwork.

In addition to her input into the round-table discussions she will be pointing out Canadian and other relevant documentation that will help her 15 fellow commissioners pinpoint the problems facing the international community in the communications field.

She describes the commission's closed-door meetings as amicable and informal with participants sitting around one conference table.

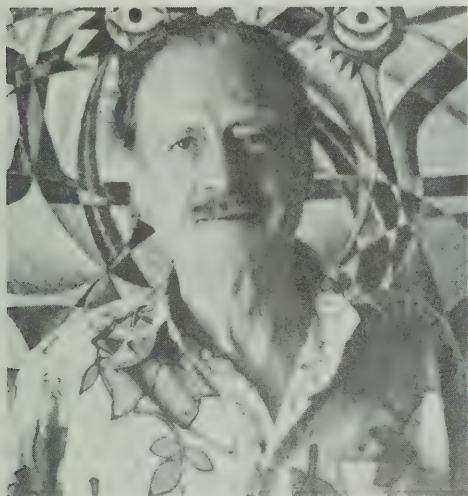
The major task of the commissioners between the tabling of their interim report at the end of October and the tabling of the final report at the Unesco general assembly session in the fall of 1979, she believes, is to pinpoint the gaps in what has already been studied and decide what useful solutions can be found to the problems raised.

She adds that in dealing with communications issues, particularly relating to the Third World, "one has to remember that many Third World societies are not print-oriented and that the developed countries often propose unsuitable and perhaps alien solutions to Third World communications problems."

She also believes that a country should be assisted only according to its own perceived needs. A major problem for the commission, she believes, is that its recommendations be specific enough to benefit the individual and particular needs of Third World countries.

She plans to attend the next commission meeting scheduled for Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia in January. **DD**

AN INTERVIEW WITH MARSHALL McLUHAN ON THE McBRIDE COMMISSION'S CHALLENGES



Marshall McLuhan, the original delegate to the McBride communications commission, discusses the current state of global communications at his University of Toronto office. Photo: John Williamson

Marshall McLuhan expressed some of his thoughts about the problems of communications in general and those between the Third World and the developed countries in particular in a recent interview in his office at the Centre for Communications and Technology on the University of Toronto campus.

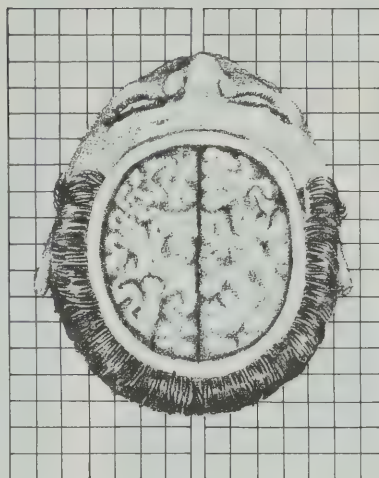
Professor McLuhan, the Canadian-born scholar and author widely acclaimed for his works on the influence and effects of communications on society, was the original Canadian delegate to the Unesco International Commission on the Study of Communications Problems.

Although he withdrew because of other commitments before the commission began its first meeting last December and has since been replaced by Betty Zimmerman of the CBC he did attend a week-long preparatory session in Paris with the other 15 commissioners.

The author of such internationally-known books as *Understanding Media*, the *Gutenberg Galaxy*, and *War and Peace in the Global Village* says that the Third World seems anxious to adopt the discarded nineteenth century communications technology of the First World.

Hot
Eye
Left Hemisphere
Right Side Body
Controls
Visual ■ Speech ■ Verbal
 Logical, Mathematical
 Linear, Detailed
 Sequential
 Controlled
 Intellectual
 Dominant
 Worldly
Quantitative
 Active
 Analytic
 Reading, Writing, Naming
 Sequential Ordering
 Perception of Significant Order
 Complex Motor Sequences

FUNCTIONS OF THE HUMAN BRAIN



Cool
Ear
Right Hemisphere
Left Side Body
Controls
Spacial ■ Musical ■ Acoustic
 Holistic
 Artistic, Symbolic
 Simultaneous
 Emotional
 Intuitive, Creative
 Minor — Quiet
 Spiritual
Qualitative
 Receptive
 Synthetic, Gestalt
 Facial Recognition
 Simultaneous Comprehension
 Perception of Abstract Patterns
 Recognition of Complex Figures

By doing so, he warns, they are joining the super-charged pace of the electronic age that is causing the rest of the so-called developed world to self-destruct.

"Every decade, our society is changing faster than it used to in a hundred years," he says, and notes the ironic fact that while the West is losing its ability to read and write through the influence of radio and television, the Third World is still struggling to attain literacy for large numbers of its peoples.

The winner of Canada's Governor-General's award for critical prose who has also been named a Companion of the Order of Canada said that electronic technology — telephone, telegraph, radio and television — has speeded up communications to such a point that an acoustic pattern has developed among those influenced by it.

He explained some of his communications theories in terms of recent scientific discoveries about the hemispheres of the human brain which influence specific human perceptions. He incorporates these complex and intriguing theories into his own theory that most Third World oral cultures tend to be dominated by the right side of the brain which largely controls the auditory functions while the developed countries have tended to be dominated by the left side which is visually-oriented.

Professor McLuhan says that the Third World seems to want to adopt the First World's technology, and hence its former perceptual orientation, at the same time that the First World is abandoning this visual, print-dominated orientation under the influence of electronic technology.

In explaining this complex theory the 67-year old scholar pointed to a large chart showing the hemispheres of the brain with his now-famous "hot" and "cool" designations for the perceptual functions they control. [See diagram above]

He says this disturbing trend toward a communications collision between the developed and developing world has led to alienation and has resulted in the Third World losing its group identity at the same time the First World is losing its sense of order due to the influence of high-speed communications technology.

The originator of the now famous phrase "the medium is the message" says "We must pull the plug and slow down because we don't have long to go at these speeds."

He says we are "mad" to use our electronic technology for information. With reference to the McBride Commission, Professor McLuhan who is now head of the University of Toronto Communications and Technology Centre says that most of their research is in vain and that improved news exchanges between each other and from the South to the North is futile.

He says this is because the world has already gone beyond the state where news is meaningful because radio and television have changed our perceptions of reality. "All news is fantasy at the speed of light," he says.

He also asked a rhetorical question about whether brief electronic images conveying news is better than no news at all. He admitted he doesn't have an answer. DD



JOURNALISM

EDUCATING DEVELOPMENT JOURNALISTS

UNIVERSITY OF WESTERN ONTARIO'S PROGRAM FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT REPORTING

by Dennis Schroeder

Several major problems will have to be solved before Canadians receive adequate international news coverage. More Canadian journalists must be given the knowledge and experience to write with perception and understanding on international affairs, especially on Third World and international development issues. Editors must be convinced to make use of the articles that are presented to them and more Canadian newspapers and news services must maintain bureaus outside Canada.

It will take a long time and plenty of hard work before this situation is improved and international development coverage reaches an adequate level. The needed changes will only come as part of a long-term educational process within the profession. Journalism programs can play an important role in increasing awareness of international affairs both among those who are running newspapers today and those who will be the editors and writers a few years from now.

Two journalism schools that are trying to develop these kinds of programs are the Secteur Journalisme et Information at Laval University in Quebec and the School of Journalism at the University of Western Ontario in London. In 1977, the two schools set up a joint Program for International Development Reporting.

The program takes different forms at the two schools, because it is taught in French at Laval and English at Western. Co-operation takes place mainly at the planning level. [See article on Laval's program on p. 26]

Western was ideally suited for such a program as it co-operates in a CIDA-sponsored scheme that brings six anglophone journalism students from Cameroon to Western for six months each year. This is part of a larger program involving the governments of Canada, France and 13 francophone African countries. Since 1972, Canada and France have helped to organize and operate the final year of a three-year degree granting program at two journalism schools in West Africa. The francophone students — who make up about 90 per cent of the total — spend the first two terms of their final year at the French Press Institute in Paris and the third term at the Université de Montréal. The students from Cameroon's anglophone minority spend one term at Paris and two terms at Western.

This program in its current form is being phased out and, after another two years, all teaching will be done in Africa. While it is desirable that African journalism schools become completely self-reliant, one unfortunate side effect of the phase-out will be the reduced interaction between Canadian and Third World students at Western's journalism school. However, the International Development Reporting Program will help to keep Third World issues prominent at the school.

At Western, under the direction of the dean of journalism, Andy McFarlane, the Program for International Development Reporting takes the form of a 12-month MA program, in which there are four-month courses on the international development aspects of journalism. A BA is the minimum entrance requirement, but a few MAs and a PhD have entered the program. Most students have not had extensive experience in

journalism and the program includes a general background that will acquaint them with the field. Most of the graduates — 90 per cent — go directly into journalism-related jobs, a few go into international development. Last year, six had overseas assignments to developing countries. These six students were selected by Western and sponsored financially by CIDA.

One of the options available to all students in the program is a course on international reporting taught by Doug MacKenzie, executive secretary of Western's Office of International Education. Professor MacKenzie intends to bring in people from CIDA, IDRC, UNDP and other agencies to speak to the students as part of the course. Students who do not take this particular course are exposed to international development issues in a variety of ways, for example, by attending news conferences to which Third World spokesmen are invited.

Aside from its teaching functions, the program sponsors annual conferences on Canada's relations with the Third World. These are essentially seminars for professional journalists and serve to bring them into contact with key people from the Third World and from the international development field.

So far, the school has — with co-operation from CIDA — held three seminars for journalists. One was a seminar for agricultural writers on world food and agriculture. Another briefed journalists on the issues involved in the New International Economic Order. It was held just before the UN session that dealt with that subject. The third seminar, entitled "Petroleum and Beyond," concentrated on energy issues, a topic suggested by editors to Professor Florian Sauvageau of Laval, and Shirley Sharzer of Western, when they were travelling across Canada, setting up the original program objectives in 1977. [A report on the seminar by Jeff Carruthers appears

in the June/July 1978 issue of Development Directions.]

The school now has tentative plans to invite senior editors and publishers to a seminar on Third World news agencies. Doug MacKenzie says the school hopes to bring in people from some of the leading wire services, as well as Third World journalists who are attempting to develop alternative flows of news and information.

The program also brings journalists, teachers and administrators from Third World countries to the campus for seminars with students. Another function is to send selected Canadian student journalists to Third World countries on assignments.

Doug MacKenzie would also like the school to become more involved in research. He feels that more should be known about what is happening in the news media — for example, if there is a shift away from international coverage, why is it happening? Research finding answers to such questions would help the school in planning its international development reporting program.

Although international coverage appears to be getting the axe in many newsrooms, Doug MacKenzie remains optimistic. He finds hopeful signs here and there that interest in international development has not died completely. Meanwhile, he and the other program organizers are doing their best to keep the flame of interest alive and even ignite a few more sparks. **DD**

Dennis Schroeder is a freelance writer who has worked with the National Development Corporation in Tanzania and conducted a survey on international news coverage in Canadian newspapers for the Ottawa-based International Development Research Centre.

LAVAL'S INTERNATIONAL REPORTING PROGRAM

by Jean Pierre Nicaise

International reporting programs have been offered at Laval University and the University of Western Ontario since last winter. As at Western [see p. 25] the objectives of the Laval program are to improve the quality of reporting in the field of international news, and particularly international development news.

The international reporting portion of the program introduces students to practical journalism in the field. Well-known journalists give guest lectures to "look at

daily working methods, sift from them the basic principles of the journalist's approach, and provoke thought," to quote Florian Sauvageau, the program director.

Radio-Canada's European correspondent Paul-André Comeau, Charles David of La Presse, Alain-Marie Caron of Le Monde, Raphael Mergui of Jeune Afrique, Henry Giniger of the New Times and Mr. Sauvageau, himself an experienced journalist, have spoken on various aspects of international reporting. Subjects such as the Middle-East conflict, the French elections, the events that have shaken the Horn of Africa and Nicaragua, were subjected to close examination.

Forty-six students, three-quarters of whom graduated in journalism in 1977-78, registered for the course.

The general theme of the 1978-79 course will be professionals in the media. Canadian and foreign experts will lecture on Canada's relations with the developing countries. Mini-conferences have been planned on the "new order" of reporting, in the African and the Latin American context.

Students who take this international reporting course have the opportunity to acquire a perception of relations between Canada and the Third World that should help them make Canadians more aware of the priorities and demands of development.

The international reporting course offered by Laval forms a part of the regular journalism program. Laval's Faculty of Arts has offered their journalism diploma since 1975. The career-oriented program lasts two terms, and accepts both Honors BA students and others who have several years' experience in journalism or a related field.

For those without a journalism background, there is basic media information and an introduction to the journalistic approach, with practical workshops as follow-up. Communications courses, political speech and press release analyses, and writing workshops are also offered.

As well as initiating the program, CIDA is giving both Universities financial support; at Laval, this support consists of a grant of \$18,000. **DD**

Jean Pierre Nicaise is freelance journalist and broadcaster living in Montreal.

JOURNALISM SCHOOLS IN AFRICA



Television student conducting man-on-the-street interview at the Caughnawaga Indian reserve near Montreal as part of the CESTI journalism program. Photo: Abdoul Aziz Bathily

by René Montpetit

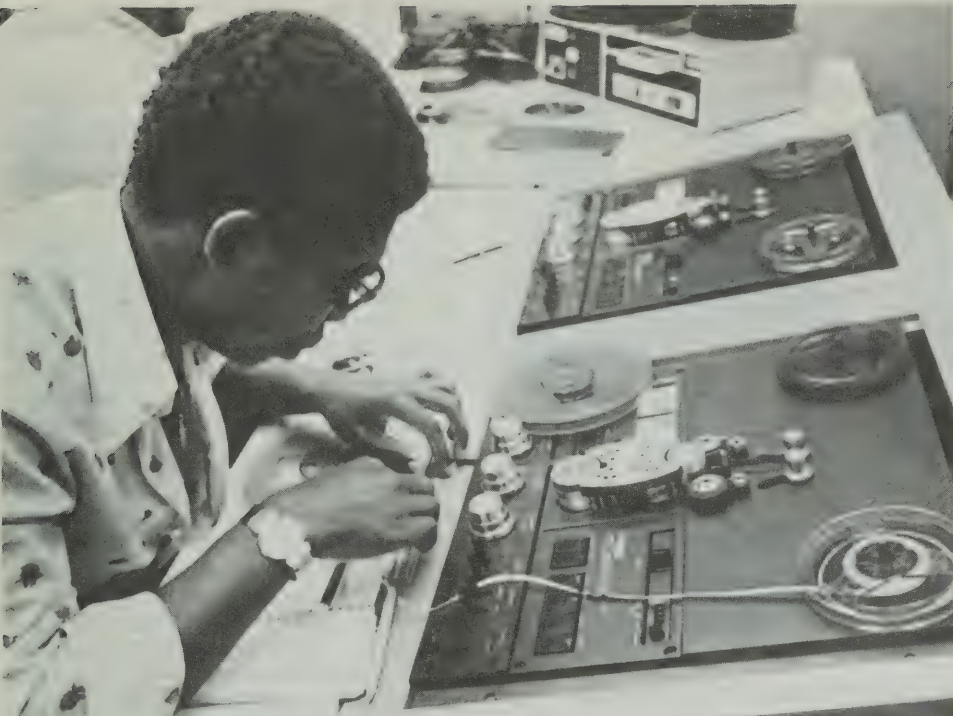
Since 1970 Canada has helped to train more than 240 African journalists who are now working in 14 countries in West and Central Africa.

The Centre for the Study of Information Sciences and Techniques (CESTI) in Dakar, Senegal has trained 117 journalists and the Ecole supérieure internationale de journalisme de Yaoundé (ESIJY) in Cameroon has trained 124. Both receive financial assistance from Canada through CIDA.

More than 39 of the 117 students trained at CESTI hold responsible journalistic positions in their countries. Only four of the 117 are no longer journalists.

Together with funds provided by the government of France, CIDA finances CESTI in Dakar. CIDA also sponsors a three-month training period at the University of Montreal for third-year students from both institutions.

CIDA gives more assistance to CESTI than to ESIJY. Canada defrays the cost of a three-month stay in Montreal for third-year ESIJY students, whereas it pays the entire cost of maintaining the school in Dakar. France is responsible for sending three co-operants, and Senegal provides accommodation for the students on the University of Dakar campus.



A radio student learns to edit a taped interview during the CIDA-sponsored three-month training period for CESTI students at Laval University.
Photo: Abdoul Aziz Bathily

Ever since African countries began achieving independence they have shown an interest in journalism.

As a result, numerous training courses were set up throughout Africa — in 1968 in Chad and Mauritius, and later in the Central African Republic, Togo, Cameroon, Congo, Gabon, Mali, Madagascar and in Mauritania.

The progress made in the training of African journalists from 1970 to the present is evident by glancing at a list of schools. Although these vary in structure and each has its own identity, they all pursue the same objectives and often apply the same methods.

Although ideas have changed regarding journalism training in Africa, the need for communications experts is increasing. Everywhere in Africa there is talk of plans for radio, television, newspapers, magazines, rural news services, literacy teaching aids, press agencies, regionalization, all types of training, refresher and development courses, research and a general broadening of horizons.

The Centre de formation des journalistes in Tananarive remained open until 1973, when the Malagasy government felt that a sufficient number of journalists had been trained.

The journalism section of the Ecole Nationale d'Administration in Brazzaville trained journalists from 1971 to 1974, but the Congolese government was unable to continue maintaining the school.

The Institut des Sciences et des Techniques de l'Information (ISTI) of the National University of Zaïre is the most recent African journalism school. It has a large amount of money to spend on training people for mass media work because it receives considerable assistance from the French development co-operation program. It is open to students from other African countries.

The Ecole supérieure internationale de journalisme de Yaoundé was opened in 1970 with CIDA assistance as a public interstate establishment. It was set up at the University of Yaoundé under an agreement between Cameroon, Gabon, Central African Republic, Rwanda, and Chad. Togo became a party to this agreement in 1972.

This school is particularly interesting because it is the first interstate experiment in journalism training in Africa. The member countries are responsible for the operating budget, except for the third year, which is spent in Canada and France. Equipment for the school was provided through France's development assistance fund and technical assistance is also supplied by France, which supports five to ten co-operants.

The Centre for the Study of Information Sciences and Techniques (CESTI) in Senegal, opened at the beginning of the 1965 academic year. It was a national institute with a regional orientation set up by the Senegalese government in co-operation with Unesco. It was closed during the period of civil unrest in the

summer of 1968, but reopened at the beginning of the 1970 academic year. Canadian Georges Galipeau, a former Quebec journalist, became the centre's first director. In 1963 he was placed in charge of the training program on information in Africa, organized by Unesco on the recommendation of Jean Cloutier, who was then assistant to the director of the Centre international d'enseignement supérieur du journalisme in Strasbourg. Mr. Galipeau worked in Africa for more than five years before becoming director of the new CESTI in 1970 at the request of the Senegalese authorities.

Three other Quebecers have held the position of director since Mr. Galipeau: André Payette, Pierre O'Neil and Mario Cardinal.

CESTI offers a three-year program followed by a short training period abroad — three months in France and another three months in Montreal. Students have an opportunity to work for radio, television, newspaper and magazines in Quebec, while English-speaking Cameroonians have a chance to do the same in English Canada. So far, students have written articles on various political, social and economic aspects of life in Canada. In each of the last three years the Montreal newspaper *Le Devoir* has published a special section devoted to these articles.

The three-year CESTI program is divided into terms of approximately 10 weeks. Admission is granted on the basis of a competition open to students with a bachelor's degree and to professionals without a degree but with more than three years' journalism experience.

Starting this year, special admission to second year may be granted after a competition to students with a degree in a related field.

By contributing to this journalism program Canada is helping African governments to communicate with their citizens and thereby encourage full participation in national development efforts.

Canada has an opportunity to reinforce such concepts as freedom of the press in the training it provides to African journalism students. Once the students become professional journalists such concepts are likely to be reflected in their work. **DD**

René Montpetit is CIDA's special adviser on social communications. He is a former journalist and former director-general of CIDA's Communications Branch.

Population dynamics and development

The world population climate may be changing for the better. A few years ago, demographers were predicting that mankind would double its size to eight billion people by the year 2000. Some of them have now scaled down their forecast to 5.8 billion, compared to the 1975 world population of four billion.

The current perspectives of the population growth are discussed in a report of the United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA). The New York-based agency says that since the 1960s, birth-rates have fallen by about 15 per cent in three to four dozen countries representing at least half and possibly two-thirds of the population of the Third World. UNFPA reports that in the next two decades, the fertility rate can be expected to drop 30 per cent from current levels.

Despite these significant changes in the population climate, UN demographers acknowledge that even the most conservative growth estimates will result in a world of vastly different dimensions by the year 2000.

China and India will each have a population exceeding one billion. Eleven countries will have more than 100 million people; 27 countries will top the 50 million mark.

Only 10 years ago, the United Nations paid only marginal attention to such facts and their social, economic and political consequences for development. But the growing population pressures led in 1969 to the creation of the UN Fund for Population Activities. The agency started under the stewardship of its present executive director, Rafael M. Salas of the Philippines, with only five employees and a budget of \$2.5 million. Today, it is a large multilateral organization with cumulative resources of more than \$400 million pledged by 83 countries, a worldwide staff of over 150, budget allocations of \$95 million in 1977, and a global program which has assisted over 1,600 population projects in 106 developing countries.

In his latest annual report, Mr. Salas discusses the realities of the imbalance of growing human numbers and accessible resources. He finds them awesome. He feels that these realities are likely to become more unmanageable in the coming decades, since population increases will occur in countries which are least able to sustain them.

The biblical injunction about the need to conserve the gains of the fat years to



avoid deprivation in the lean years is therefore being followed more devoutly in recent years. Nevertheless, says Mr. Salas, it is a sobering thought that there is no technology now being evolved in the research institutes that promises the possibility of a quantum increase in food production in the order of magnitude offered 15 years ago by the "green revolution."

Migration and urbanization is yet another population feature which promises a totally unfamiliar magnitude of problems a mere two decades from now. At the current rate of growth, the UNFPA report says, cities in every world region are expected to be bursting at their seams.

The Tokyo-Yokohama complex will grow from 15 to 26 million; greater Cairo will jump from 6 to 16 million; Lagos is expected to reach 9.4 million from its present base of 2 million; and Mexico City is likely to triple its 10 million population.

An interesting and possibly pragmatic solution to this problem is being proposed by some social scientists who advocate the development of so-called half-way towns. They would be located between big cities and villages. Industry would be induced to locate their activities there through fiscal concessions and improved transport services.

Both the young and the old will need increased attention by the year 2000.

The number of young adults increased from 488 million in 1955 to 740 million in 1975 and is expected to reach 879 million in 1985. The surge is higher in the developing countries which will account for 688 million young adults of the 1985 total.

In some countries, the young under 15 years of age constitute more than 40 per cent of the population. They can thus become a severe drain on the social and economic development resources.

These young adults will also need adequate family planning services. UNFPA says that the question of adolescent fertility is a cause of deep concern to many developing countries. The other shared concern is the problem of aging. It is caused by the decline of fertility rates and the prolongation of life expectancy.

The most significant principle emerging from the UNFPA report is that changes taking place in demographic processes should be recognized as powerful determinants in the formulation of social and economic policy and plans in every major area of national concern. The agency says that it is a matter of regret that in many developing countries, progress in incorporating the population element in developing planning is "deplorably slow."

Mr. Salas suggests that sometime during the 1970s, the world experienced its third wave of major fertility decline. The first took place in Western Europe and North America in the 19th century; the second in Eastern Europe and Japan after the Second World War. The third is currently occurring in many developing countries.

But UN demographers do not quite know why or whether the trend will last. The fund's report indicates that in some countries, increased availability of birth control information and methods could be among the main reasons. Increased literacy or improved status of women or changing international migration patterns are indicated in other cases.

The report says there is reason to believe that in China the annual birth rate growth has dropped to about 25 per 1,000 people. In India fertility is down by 10 per cent in the past decade, and by 15 per cent in Indonesia. On the other hand, there is no evidence of fertility fall in sub-Saharan Africa.

The gap between life expectancy in the "have" and the "have-not" countries is seen by the Population Fund as "a tragic comment on our inability to give substance to the rhetoric of global interdependency." The average life expectancy in the Third World has risen from 42 to 54 years in the past decade. But it jumped from 65 to 71 years in the industrialized world. In Africa, the average is only 45 years. **DD**

SIDA — Sweden's international development authority

CIDA's counterpart in Sweden has a familiar ring to Canadians involved in international development. SIDA (the Swedish International Development Authority), in existence since 1965, administers the largest per capita development program in the world. In 1978 aid appropriations were approximately \$968 million (3,870 million Swedish Kronor). Sweden is the only country to reach the one per cent GNP target established by the United Nations at the beginning of the Second Development Decade.

One of the most striking aspects of Swedish aid is the overwhelming support traditionally given to development co-operation by members of the Swedish Riksdag (Parliament). From 1968 when it was decided to increase aid disbursements in stages to one per cent of the GNP, to 1975 when this target was reached, only one member of Parliament out of 350 ever voted against this goal.

Swedish development co-operation takes place with a limited number of countries, chosen on the basis of their demonstrated commitment to improve the living conditions for the majority of their inhabitants.

Sweden now has long-term programs with 21 countries, including 13 in Africa and six in Asia. Projects are carried out in the fields of family planning (including sex education), health and nutrition, water, agriculture, forestry, education, industry and commerce, transportation, communications and power. Approximately 90 per cent of SIDA's bilateral funds goes to countries which the United Nations has classified as "least developed."

Ninety-eight per cent of Sweden's bilateral assistance is extended on grant terms. Only 17 per cent of its total aid is tied to goods and services provided by Sweden. Tied aid, however, has increased by three per cent since the last fiscal year. The Swedish authorities believe aid and trade interests should be kept as far apart as possible and that the interest of the recipient country should always prevail over interests of the donor country and its commercial enterprises. In order to ensure the best possible use of the funds for the recipient country, whenever practicable, procurements are made through international competitive bidding.

Aid through SIDA to co-operating countries 1978/79 (million Skr)

| | |
|---------------|-----|
| Swaziland | 10 |
| Lesotho | 12 |
| Somalia | 15 |
| Cape Verde | 20 |
| Cuba | 30 |
| Tunisia | 30 |
| Laos | 40 |
| Pakistan | 40 |
| Portugal | 40 |
| Guinea-Bissau | 50 |
| Botswana | 55 |
| Angola | 60 |
| Ethiopia | 70 |
| Sri Lanka | 80 |
| Kenya | 90 |
| Zambia | 95 |
| Mozambique | 115 |
| Bangladesh | 115 |
| India | 270 |
| Tanzania | 310 |
| Vietnam | 380 |

Support for political independence and economic self-reliance is another important aim of Swedish aid. That country's assistance to liberation movements, refugees, and victims of apartheid in Southern Africa has increased substantially over the past few years. Sweden has supported liberation movements of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde, Mozambique and Angola in their fight against the Portuguese colonial power in Africa. Today these liberation movements have become the governments of independent countries, which continue to receive Swedish aid.

In a recent speech, the director-general of SIDA, Ernst Michanek stated, "the Swedish people are not neutral in regard to other peoples' right to decide on their own destiny and their own economic and social system."

"In accordance with this philosophy, Swedish support to non-governmental organizations for their activities in developing countries also aims at the eventual build-up of similar organizations or other grass-root activities within developing countries, thereby promoting a democratic system of government."

At the moment, Sweden supplies humanitarian assistance to the South-West African People's Organization (SWAPO) of Namibia and the African National Congress (ANC) of South Africa. The Zimbabwe African People's Union (ZAPU) and the Zimbabwe African National Union (ZANU) receive support through a co-ordinating body, the Patriotic Front.

SIDA's support for liberation movements also includes contributions to international NGOs and the United Nations for educational programs and legal aid.

Traditionally, one-third of total Swedish development assistance is channelled through international organizations. In some United Nations programs, the Swedish financial contribution is second only to that of the United States. In addition to international co-operation, the Swedes have a tradition of co-operation in the field of development assistance with their four Nordic neighbors. At the moment, jointly financed Nordic development projects exist in Tanzania, Kenya and Mozambique.

SIDA also has an information service. The greater part of the funds for information activities is given to non-governmental study organizations and trade unions for development education programs. It is clearly stated by the Parliament that the recipients carry out their information activities without any intervention from the government or SIDA. In his speech, director-general Michanek said, "This means that the campaigns reflect the ideological colors of the various organizations, and this is as it should be."

As part of its own public development education program, SIDA organizes development seminars for journalists and teacher trainers, courses and conferences, scholarships for journalists, writers and filmmakers, contacts with mass media, schools and the general public.

Not only does the principle of development co-operation enjoy the unanimous support of the members of Parliament, but a long series of opinion polls since the mid-1960s have invariably shown about 80 per cent of the population approves of the volume of aid reached at the time of each poll, or felt this volume should be increased. But in spite of the public's positive attitude, the government plans to increase the total volume of aid by only three per cent annually, which falls well behind the projected inflation rate.

This positive attitude towards assistance for Third World countries has remained constant in spite of Sweden's present serious economic problems. The question remains: Will public opinion continue to register such high support for overseas development aid in the face of increasing domestic economic problems, such as the high tax burden, unemployment and inflation? **DD**

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The environment: a crucial development consideration

Ignacy Sachs notes, in his study on environment and development prepared for CIDA and Environment Canada, that after 20 years of economic growth and two UN development decades, the world now faces a serious development crisis, which is more than a mere cyclical accident.

Professor Sachs, who is director of the International Research Centre on Environment and Development (CIRED) and internationally renowned in the field of eco-development, says this has led to, among other things, a wave of alarmist literature. This literature has the merit of raising mass awareness of the outer limits of "Spaceship Earth," but exaggerates the inevitability of the ultimate catastrophe while stating the problem of growth only in quantitative terms.

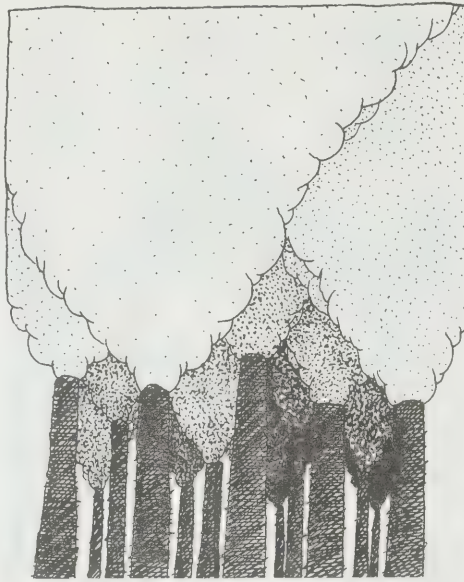
This is no reason to justify the opposite extreme of limitless technological optimism. Then, it becomes a false debate about growth, and the appropriate solution is to state the problem in entirely different terms and try to identify the means to harmonize socio-economic policy with sound management of the environment.

In order to do so, it is necessary to act at many levels simultaneously (be they political, economic, socio-cultural or technical) so as to achieve a global perception of the interaction between development and environment, since the environment cannot be considered merely a specific sector of activity.

Some levels of intervention where the environmental dimension should be taken into consideration are: consumption policies, time management policies, technological policies, space management policies, policies for the conservation of scarce resources and for the development of abundant resources, energy policies, and environmental policies in the strictest sense.

An efficient eco-development strategy must imply a new definition of development, giving rise to an integrated set of such policies. This list of areas is useful as a guide for research and action, but it must be emphasized that in practice, each country or region will have to decide the contents of its eco-development strategy according to its own particular situation.

International co-operation must adapt to the new demands of eco-development,



with its implications for the implementation of "another development." In this context, it must be underlined that a country following the eco-development path renders a service to the international community, if only by saving non-renewable resources. Eco-development is thus a good strategy in terms of international co-operation.

On the other hand, the monopolizing and waste of non-renewable resources by a minority of rich countries can be seen as a case of aggression against the interests of humanity as a whole. However, care must be taken to avoid a situation where the option of Third World countries for the eco-development path would merely serve as an excuse to maintain the privileges of rich countries.

This is precisely why industrialized countries must first of all question their own development approach. It must be emphasized that the same questions apply just as well to rich and poor countries alike. The conservation of resources concerns the industrialized countries as much as it does Third World countries, if not more, since the former are the major consumers. Furthermore, it is wrong to pretend that poor countries do not have serious ecological problems because that is a problem of the rich. In fact, poor countries have to deal with the worst of both worlds: with the pollution resulting from poverty as well as modern industrial pollution.

Thus, international collaboration in eco-development implies a parallel effort by both partners. This would result in the possibility of exchanges of experiences, which would markedly differ from the present scheme of unilateral transfers of

technology from industrialized countries to Third World countries.

This obviously implies local and national self reliance. It is not a question of economic self-sufficiency, but rather of the capability of a society to identify its problems by itself, to conceive its own solutions and to implement these mostly with its own resources. However, this leaves the door open to some importation of knowledge, equipment or raw materials from foreign sources when these resources cannot be found locally.

What is important is that the country itself decides what are its priorities and chooses its partners, while favoring South-South co-operation whenever possible. This collaboration between more equal partners is crucial, the more so since many Third World countries face similar problems or live in comparable ecosystems.

Ideally, assistance from the North should consist of a given quantity of resources that would be made available to Third World countries, while assuring them that they would have complete freedom of choice regarding their uses, including the right to make honest mistakes. If the initiative concerning the procedures of co-operation with the North were to be transferred to Third World countries, it is more than likely that the latter, after a few unavoidable initial mistakes, would learn to identify how we can be most useful to them, which would substantially increase the efficiency of international co-operation.

Canada has immense resources and seems to have a capability to question its own development. One can find evidence of this capability in the increasing activities of ecology movements and most notably through the federal research project on a "conserving society," which is analysing the prospects for a future Canada based on a civilization of the renewable. All this confers a certain credibility, and an even greater responsibility. The future of eco-development as an operational concept will depend greatly on what is done in Canada over the next few years. DD

Marc-André Fredette

Marc-André Fredette is research assistant to the head of CIDA's Prospective Unit.

For more details, see "Environment and Development — A New Rationale for Domestic Policy Formulation and International Co-Operation Strategies" by Ignacy Sachs, which can be obtained free of charge from: Prospective Unit, Policy Branch, CIDA, 200 rue Principale, Hull, Quebec K1A 0G4

Broadcasting in the Third World: Promise and Performance

by Elihu Katz and
George Wedell
Harvard University Press
305 pp., \$18.00.

In their preface the authors indicate that "the world in the 1970s is witnessing an important stage in the transfer of the electronic media of radio and television from the industrial countries of Europe and North America to the developing countries of the Third World. In the case of radio, the process is nearly complete."

But this transfer of technology is not neutral. It carries with it "the transfer of socio-cultural institutions with economic and political implications, institutions ready-packaged with organizational and program formats and even contents."

Anyone travelling in the Third World and staying in first-class hotels is often frustrated in his desire to know more about the country he is in because what he sees on the television screen is not the local lore but a repeat of "I Love Lucy." If he decides to watch the news he notices an obvious absence of political discussion. Political dissent never appears on the screen.

These facts are general enough in the Third World to cause concern over the future of broadcasting in these countries. They challenge the assumption of the 1960s that broadcasting would become an automatic instrument of development for the Third World.

Radio systems may provide coverage for the whole of a territory, but it is not so for TV. TV is still a medium limited to urban centers. This is changing however in middle income countries such as Brazil and Algeria where the television networks are rapidly expanding. In the 1980s we are going to see a growth in television broadcasting parallel to the one already witnessed for radio. But will all this investment be confined to urban centers and become grist for the transmission mill of low-cost American serials and stereotyped newscasts?

Katz and Wedell have found that this is not always the case. For instance, the Broadcasting Corporation of Northern Nigeria has initiated the creation of viewing centers in the villages. The centers are open to all without charge. The design specifications provide, among other things, that they be capable of operation by an unskilled caretaker.



The authors suggest that "if group viewing transforms the viewing experience from an individualistic to a collective act and both contributes to increasing participation by citizens in the resolution of the social issues that are brought to their attention by the medium and enhances the impact of extensive education in such areas as literacy, health, and agricultural development, then this type of activity deserves to be encouraged in its own right."

Radio and television are media. What developing countries must do is to put into those media a content that corresponds to their policy of development. The researchers have found countries except Algeria lacking in this respect.

Whether we in the developed countries like it or not, whether we think it is right or wrong for the developing countries to invest heavily in radio and television, they will do it. Developing countries not only strive for development but also for modernization. Airlines, telecommunications systems, radio and television networks are part of that modernization process which puts them into contact with the rest of the world.

It is by walking the tightrope between modernization and development that countries like Canada can help developing countries promote a broadcasting system that will emphasize the social and cultural elements of development that should be fostered. Technical assistance to develop local programming capacity, technicians, producers, as well as audio-visual equipment should be provided to developing countries in the context of an articulated relationship between development and broadcasting policies.

Tale of an Iron Snake

Produced by Ampersand Productions for CIDA and available through National Film Board offices across Canada.
10 minutes, color.

Slick is the only word to describe this little film. The title, with its obvious pun, sets the tone. The opening sequence repeats the trick visually; sepia-tinted shots conjure visions of Canada's railroad history, until we realize as the colors appear that this is Malawi's, not Canada's, "national dream." And through it all runs the smooth, professional narration of Pierre Berton.

The film is about the building of a railroad in Malawi, a CIDA project involving about \$30 million of the Canadian taxpayers' money, and is presumably intended to make them feel good about it. It is full of the "right" kind of facts and figures, and is at pains to show how the project will benefit this land-locked African nation.

Self-reliance is the name of the game — 1,600 Malawians, we're told, worked on the project with only 17 Canadian engineers. The factory built to manufacture the railroad ties (managed by a Malawian baker) may become a regional supplier for this part of Africa, thus providing valuable permanent jobs. And it uses mostly local materials, only the steel is imported.

It's all very well done, with some excellent visuals, plenty of interesting camera-angles, and some first-rate cutting to music. Very polished. And that's really what is wrong with this film. Like the car salesman's pitch, it is just too slick to stick. Good propaganda (and what else could this film be but propaganda?) should be just a little rough around the edges — it lends credibility. The Malawi railroad may be a good project, but this presentation makes it seem just too good to be true. **DD**

reviewed by Bob Stanley

Bob Stanley is a writer and editor for the International Development Research Centre, Ottawa.

For this to happen, developing countries will have to harness their broadcasting systems to their own development. Developed countries, on the other hand, will have to go beyond the entertainment and news value of broadcasting, if their "aid" is to have some impact on development. **DD**

reviewed by Paul Doucet

Paul Doucet is director-general of CIDA's Communications Branch and a former public affairs broadcaster for Radio-Canada.

A negative reaction to the ECC study on Canada's relations with developing countries

by John Harker

The recent study by the Economic Council of Canada on this country's relations with developing countries has been offered presumably to encourage informed discussion, not misdirection of policy, in an area closely associated with Canada's long-term future.

The ECC study entitled *For a Common Future — a Study of Canada's Relations with Developing Countries* was meant to contribute to informed discussion; but misdirection of policy may be its most likely result.

Whatever informed discussion takes place will be generated in opposition to the ECC study, its structure and its findings, rather than in its support.

The Canadian Labour Congress, in a strong statement from its president, Dennis McDermott, has condemned one of the major thrusts in the ECC study, the identification of and movement away from industries in which Canada enjoys no "comparative advantage."

In this short comment, I will deal with this issue, and relate it to others, primarily to direct private foreign investment, the real meaning of "comparative advantage," and the importance of aid policies in coping with the implications of this connection.

These items are all touched on in the study, but in so sketchy a manner that it almost would appear that the authors do not see them for what they really are: the true key to understanding the way to achieve "peace, security, the stability of the international economic system and the growth of the Canadian economy." Substitute "economic growth" for the last of these goals and we have a prescription that can apply to the whole world.

Better put, economic security and social justice for all based on a fair distribution of wealth both within and among nations.

Here of course, is the rub. Organized labor has for years worked toward these goals, and yet little attempt has been made, even in this study, to understand just how we expect these goals to be implemented by our political leaders.



What role, for example, does the ECC envisage for Canadian labor in its "common future." A much limited and stereotyped one if we have to rely on the statement that "the lowering of quantitative import barriers would be suspended as soon as serious labour disruptions appeared and . . . would recommence only when they had been resolved."

Little wonder that the president of the CLC did not greet the ECC study with open arms, especially when only two years ago, the CLC presented a major proposal on adjustment and developing countries, in a brief to the House of Commons sub-committee on international development.

That proposal called for the establishment of a committee, representing major government departments, industry and organized labor, which would consider domestic adjustments and to that end would commission a program of studies of prior adjustment efforts.

The Commons brief made it clear that such a major effort would be directed to identifying and promoting new areas of employment and re-vitalising old ones to give Canada a proper industrial strategy while maintaining equitable conditions for the workers of developing countries.

And now after two years of silence, the ECC has published its study with no mention of labor's positive concerns, but replete with formulae for "adjusting" perhaps 10 per cent of the work force out of current employment. How can this be justified? The study's answer: "a reasonably strong economic upturn in the mid-1980s would likely bring unemployment down to more acceptable levels, so that workers displaced by any

freeing of trade would have many more job opportunities than they would today."

This is not the language of political reality, unless the new reality is confusion.

The study offers an altogether too brief examination of multinational companies and although it does recognize, in the most gentle of ways, that these instruments are often very disruptive and that Canada's aid program should not offer special encouragement to direct foreign investment, it still believes the benefits to Canada from such investment outweigh the costs.

Was the ECC reluctant to look at the jobs created by multinationals in South Korea, Taiwan, Singapore and Hong Kong, which demonstrate such comparative advantage? It is here, especially in the industries the study focuses on, that the most devastating exploitation of labor is to be found.

The CLC has gone on record as willing to make no adjustment, no sacrifice, to increase the well-being of a multinational company or an elitist group in a developing country. We and similar labor movements are fighting for a battery of changes which will provide for a real common future.

On the topic of the relationship between foreign investment, comparative advantage and aid, it should be widely known that we are working for a "social clause" in the GATT Treaty to prevent exploitation as an element of the equation in international trade, for binding international regulation of multinationals, and for embargoes on aid where exploitation exists.

We have already made significant steps in the direction of each, and the ECC would have done well to acquaint itself with them. Perhaps less opposition to its ideas would have been generated.

[A summary of the above-mentioned ECC report is in the August/September issue of *Development Directions*.] DD

John Harker is director of the Canadian Labour Congress international affairs department.

Readers of *Development Directions* are invited to send submissions to this column. Items should not be more than 1,000 words, preferably typed and double spaced. Send submissions to:

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DEVELOPMENT DIRECTIONS

A NEWSMAGAZINE ON INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 1978

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SUGARCANE TECHNOLOGY:

A CANADIAN
INVENTION MAY
BENEFIT THIRD
WORLD

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A REPORT FROM
THE ALMA ATA
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CO-OPERATION
AMONG
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A LOOK AT 10
YEARS OF
CANADIAN
ASSISTANCE TO
THE THIRD WORLD



A note from the editor-in-chief

New technologies and new approaches to problems of development are vital requirements if the Third World is to benefit from the development process.

This issue of *Development Directions* contains an article on a Canadian invention—the sugar separator—developed by entrepreneurs Ted Tilby and Bob Miller which may bring a technology to the Caribbean and elsewhere in the Third World that will turn the troubled sugar industry into a producer of goods ranging from animal feed to construction materials. Brian Upton went to Barbados to bring us this report.

This issue also contains a report on the controversial primary health care approach to providing medical care—especially to the Third World—written by Iain Guest, a Geneva-based free-lance journalist specializing in Third World events who attended the conference in the remote town of Alma Ata in the U.S.S.R.

The magazine's correspondent at the United Nations, Jeff Endrst, went to Buenos Aires to bring us a report on the historic conference on technical co-operation among developing countries which agreed to a plan of action to facilitate self-help among the countries of the South without the direct participation of Northern aid donors.

Also in this issue: a report on the new directions of VADA—Canada's only joint federal-provincial body specifically concerned with joint Third World development ventures; a report on the International Bread and Cereals Congress held in Winnipeg where the world's leading cereal scientist warned that international food shortages are by no means a thing of the past; and an analysis of the Economic Council of Canada's report on Canada's aid policy.

Paul Doucet
Editor-in-chief

Development Directions is published six times a year by the Canadian International Development Agency under the authority of the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honorable Don C. Jamieson.

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The opinions expressed in this magazine do not necessarily reflect the opinion or policies of the Canadian International Development Agency.

Development Directions welcomes letters to the editor. Submissions should be addressed to:

Editor,
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200 Promenade du Portage,
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Development Directions est également disponible gratuitement en français sous le titre *Directions du Développement*. Toute demande doit être adressée au responsable de la diffusion. *Directions du Développement* L'Agence canadienne de développement international.

ISSN 0705-064X

Second Class Mail
Registration Number 4353

Contract No. OKX7-1173
Beauregard Press
Printed in Canada

Cover:

Loading sugar cane in Barbados
photo: Roberta Borg

DEVELOPMENT DIRECTIONS

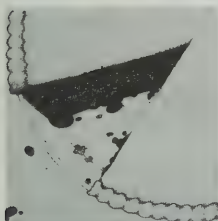
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Agriculture

Canadian joint venture formed to undertake drainage and irrigation projects in Third World

A new Canadian joint venture partnership has been formed to research and develop opportunities to participate in international agricultural drainage and irrigation projects.

Agrierte International is the result of a partnership between Canada Wire and Cable (International) Ltd. of Toronto and The Big "O" Drain Tile Co. Ltd. of Exeter, Ont.

The goal of the partnership is to introduce systematic subsurface drainage as a method of increasing agricultural productivity throughout the developing world.

Initially, Agrierte will assess opportunities for joint venture investments in developing countries where there are serious problems of salinity or drainage of agricultural land. It is hoped that one of the results will be the establishment of industries in Third World countries where plastic tubing or clay tile will be manufactured and installed.

Since Canada Wire and Cable (International) Ltd. was formed in 1962, it has developed joint ventures in Columbia, Venezuela, Mexico, the Dominican Republic, Brazil, New Zealand and other countries. The Big "O" is one of Canada's foremost agricultural drainage companies, specializing in the manufacture, marketing and installation of corrugated drainage tubing.

Africa

Rural development centre proposed by FAO

A regional centre for rural development in Africa has been recommended by the 10th FAO Regional Conference for Africa which was held at Arusha, Tanzania, in September.

The regional centre, for which Tanzania has offered a location, would undertake analysis and evaluation of rural development programs, formulate policies and provide field research and training facilities.

Agriculture and rural development ministers from 49 African FAO member states adopted a resolution at the conference appealing for action on agrarian reform and rural development. The resolution was drafted in anticipation of the World Conference on Agrarian Reform and World Development to be held at Rome in July 1979.

Cameroon receives dredge from Canada



Taking soil samples in Douala Harbor.
photo: C. Pelligrin

Canada has delivered a \$10 million motorized dredge to the Cameroon government as part of a multinational aid project to enlarge and develop the port of Douala.

The dredge, named Youpwe, was built by Davie Shipbuilding Ltd. of Quebec. The Douala project is being carried out at a cost of \$110 million, to which CIDA is contributing \$36 million. It will help eliminate the main transport bottleneck in Cameroon and meet the growing need for harbor installations in the country until 1995.

FAO prepares regional food plan for Africa

FAO, collaborating with the Economic Commission for Africa, has prepared a regional food plan for Africa that proposes a goal of 94 per cent self-sufficiency in food by 1985.

The plan proposes major shifts in national policies and priorities that would place emphasis on agricultural and rural development and food crops. Principal recommendations are for the extension and intensification of agriculture—both rain-fed and irrigated—improved use of mechanical power and technology on farms, and increased livestock and fisheries production.

The chief responsibility for action to improve self-sufficiency in food lies with the individual governments of Africa, the study notes. Governments need to reorient their food and agricultural development policies and to strengthen their administrative machinery and institutions so as to make more effective use of external assistance.

Capital investment needs to carry out the plan are estimated at \$27,300 million for 1975-1990 and the costs of fertilizers, feeds and seeds will triple to \$6,500 million a year by 1990.

Asia

Bangladesh receives grant to purchase Canadian commodities

CIDA has granted Bangladesh \$60.5 million to purchase over three years, commodities traditionally supplied by Canada.

Potash, used in growing rice and jute, will account for almost 40 per cent of the funds provided. Canada will also provide sulphur for use in the production of fertilizer, aluminum for the manufacture of pots and pans, copper for power cables, zinc for galvanized wire, and woodpulp.

Canadian funds available to Bangladesh for commodities have been at a level of \$10 million annually in recent years. The new grant will provide approximately \$20 million a year for the three years 1978-79 to 1980-81.

Health

CIDA funds for disease control in Burma



Patients await treatment at Rangoon General Hospital, Burma.
NFB photo: Richard Harrington

CIDA will contribute \$5.65 million in untied grant funds to help fight vector borne disease in Burma.

The five-year project will be administered by the World Health Organization (WHO) and is designed to reduce death and sickness due to five major diseases—malaria, plague, dengue haemorrhagic fever (DHF), filariasis and Japanese encephalitis. WHO is trying to effect a 25 per cent reduction in these diseases by 1982.

Vector-borne diseases are those where insects carry the diseases-bearing parasite, an acute problem in Burma. In 1974 CIDA made a contribution of \$6 million over six years to a similar program aimed at eradicating another vector borne disease, river blindness.

CIDA assists rural health program

Canada is providing more than half the cost of a \$1.7 million rural health program in seven Latin American countries.

CIDA has signed an agreement with the Pan-American Health Organization which will provide \$960,000 in audio-visual equipment and technical advice for health education. Canadian advisers will serve on health teams in rural areas of Bolivia, Colombia, Cuba, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Guatemala and Honduras. After three years, as nationals of the countries become trained, the Canadians will be replaced.

Humanitarian assistance

CIDA gives additional funds to Lebanon

CIDA has provided a further \$200,000 to aid the victims of the conflict in Lebanon. An earlier contribution of \$1 million was made in April 1978 and the current contribution brings the total Canadian humanitarian assistance to Lebanon since 1975 to \$5.96 million.

Additional pledge to UNWRA for Palestinian refugees



Palestinian refugee children line up at a gate after eating at the feeding centre in Baqa'a camp, north of Amman, Jordan.
photo: John Goddard

CIDA has announced that Canada will contribute an extra \$1 million in wheat flour to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNWRA). This contribution is in addition to the \$2.5 million in wheat flour and \$1.65 million in cash already announced for 1978.

The additional contribution is in response to the critical financial situation being experienced by UNWRA, which has had, among other measures, to reduce refugee rations by as much as 50 per cent.

UNWRA provides education, relief and health services to Palestine refugees who had lived in Palestine before the Arab-Israeli conflict of 1949.

CIDA

Dupuy stresses need for infrastructures and training

The Canadian International Development Agency is stressing infrastructure and the training of indigenous technicians and specialists in both its multilateral and bilateral development programs, Michel Dupuy, CIDA's president, told the members of the Richelieu Club in Quebec City.

His answer to criticism that huge sums of money were being invested in dams, railways, roads, and telecommunications systems while people in developing countries suffered from hunger was that without these capital programs CIDA's Emergency Relief Program would become excessive and "a blind alley."

"Once the food is gone, the developing country is left with nothing but a population desperately awaiting the next shipment from Canada," the CIDA president said. This kind of charity is not CIDA's aim. CIDA exists to promote the overall development process."

Mr. Dupuy's speech dealt mainly with Canada's co-operation with the countries of Francophone Africa. In this region there were 333 projects in 26 countries all directed towards the two goals of assisting the most disadvantaged countries and concentration on the sectors of transportation, energy and rural development. This orientation would be maintained in coming years, he said, to reach "an optimal balance in Canadian assistance between the most disadvantaged countries and the countries with medium incomes."

An example was the Kaartha project in Mali which has eight components, ranging from the digging of wells in the desert to a functional literacy program for the Sahelians. Growth of the communications and transportation sector in Francophone Africa had been pronounced. In Senegal and Guinea there were projects which integrated all the operations from the time the fish were caught until the time they were served for dinner. In Zaire, forest development was being carried out vertically, from inventories right through to lumbering.

"I intend to set geographical target areas where we will concentrate in fields in which Canada has the required competence and to which its technologies can be adapted," Mr. Dupuy said. "These fields include energy, hydro-electric projects, transportation, resources development, cartography, geodetic studies, communications, aeronautics, health and education."

Conferences

Montreal North-South conference discusses "essential needs"

CIDA's senior vice-president, Léo Dorais, told a Montreal conference on essential needs and development co-operation that an essential needs strategy for the Third World will remain an intellectual game as long as specific development activities are not in harmony with broader global realities.

"It is easy to build a well in a rural area but afterwards one must make sure that there are qualified technical people who will be capable of maintaining it," he said.

The conference, held by the World Bank and the Ottawa-based research group, the North-South Institute, was attended by about 100 invited participants representing the federal and provincial governments, international organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), business, labor, and some representatives from the Third World.

Mahbub ul Haq, director of the World Bank's policy and program review department urged "less talk and more action" in helping meet the poor nations' essential needs. He went on to say that poverty is not an isolated element but is a pervasive part of the Third World's political and economic problems.

The two-day conference included "case study" workshop discussions on such topics as development assistance priorities, the new international economic order, essential needs and other facets of development co-operation.

During the workshop on assistance priorities and the new international economic order, the vice-president of CIDA's policy branch, William Jenkins, said that the new economic order depends not only on the fulfilment of basic needs but also on the massive transfer of resources from the North to the South. Such transfers, he believes, would enable Third World countries to stimulate their economies and thus become more self-sufficient.

A series of conference workshops enabled the representatives from private enterprises, non-governmental organizations and federal and provincial governments to exchange views on subjects ranging from ways of meeting the objectives of an essential needs strategy to ways of resolving specific technical problems on development projects.

Projects aimed at meeting essential needs financed by CIDA, the World Bank, and NGOs were reviewed by conference participants. Some of the projects reviewed included supplying drinking water in Ghana, the Colza II rapeseed cultivation project in Peru, and the motorization of fishing boats in Senegal. Delegates generally agreed that these projects were well-administered and are achieving their development assistance goals.

CIDA's president, Michel Dupuy, discussed some possible directions for Canada's development assistance strategies for the 1980s. He said they are likely to include

increased development assistance to the "middle income" Third World countries and improved quality of CIDA projects rather than an increase in the number of projects undertaken by the agency.

The October conference was the first that the World Bank had sponsored jointly with an independent organization in Canada.

International news problems discussed at Quebec congress

Journalists from developing countries were among the more than 200 delegates to the recent Tenth Congress on International Relations and the Francophone Press held recently in Quebec City. About 15 francophone countries were represented.

Concern about the monopoly over the processing of international news by the large international press agencies was voiced by Abdou Rahmane Cissé, a journalism professor at the CESTI journalism school in Senegal and by Habib Bourlares of Tunisia, an editorial adviser and correspondent of the Paris-based newsmagazine, *Jeune Afrique*.

These two Third World spokesmen at the congress called for a reversal of this trend and for the strengthening of national and regional news agencies in developing countries.

According to Denise Bombardier, producer of Radio-Canada's weekly international affairs program, *Présent international*, the lack of interest in international news on the part of Quebecers can be attributed to the trend for school systems to do little to foster interest in other countries.

In her address to the congress, she also attributed the lack of interest in news of the rest of the world on the part of Quebecers to the fact that they are preoccupied by their own political problems. She suggested that Quebec journalists should try to treat international news in a way that would relate it to Quebecers in order to interest them in world events.

The National Film Board of Canada showed the film, *Derrière l'image*, which attempts to analyze television news and the information media in general. It was well received by delegates and provoked debate on such questions as whether a 20-minute newscast provides a true picture of the day's events and what is the responsibility of individuals confronted with accounts of the often cruel and bloody events presented to them in news summaries.

The two-day congress was sponsored by the Centre québécois de relations internationales, the Paris-based *d'études de politique étrangère*, the Boston-based World Peace Foundation and the Canadian Institute of International Affairs.

Commonwealth journalists discuss Third World news problems



Viewers receive limited exposure to Third World issues.
Canadian Government Photo Centre

Journalists from the industrialized nations of the world must be more aware of and sympathetic to the needs and aspirations of developing countries, according to Shridath Ramphal, Commonwealth secretary-general, in his opening address to the quadrennial conference of the Commonwealth Press Union in Toronto.

Mr. Ramphal told publishers, editors and journalists from many parts of the Commonwealth that the press from the major industrialized countries distorts news relating to the developing countries.

"They count the media of the North as being aligned against them," Mr. Ramphal said.

He also called on the Western press to not only report on the negative aspects of developing countries, but to become involved in increasing global awareness of the problems of these countries.

Although some Third World delegates conceded their governments were at times overly sensitive to criticism in the Western media they also claimed that Western news agencies and publications were hostile and biased in their reporting of conditions in under-developed countries.

The conference was also the occasion of the birth of the Commonwealth Journalists Association (CJA) supported by about 10 news representatives of Commonwealth countries. Primary architects of the CJA were Derek Ingram and Patrick Keatley of England, both past presidents of the Diplomatic and Commonwealth Writers Association of Britain.

Objectives of the association are "to improve the quality and quantity of information available to journalists by providing forums for briefings, talks and discussions; to

bring about interchange of journalists so that they might build a better understanding of each other's countries and problems; and to launch training opportunities on a bigger scale than heretofore so that journalists from developing countries would be able to learn their trade in other developing countries as well as in developed countries.

Formation of the CJA follows a proposal at the Commonwealth Communications Symposium held in Nicosia last May.

Trade and aid

British study analyses Third World-Soviet resource flows

The British government has done some research on aid and trade between the developing countries and Eastern Europe and has come up with the startling revelation that the flow of money and resources from the have-not countries to the Soviet Union now outstrips Soviet aid to them.

British Ambassador to the UN, Ivor Richard, took the Third World countries to task for continuing their criticism of Western aid performance, while bypassing the industrialized countries of Eastern Europe in silence.

Mr. Richard said that in 1976, repayments by recipients of Soviet aid exceeded Soviet aid disbursements by \$14 million.

He said that Soviet development aid to the have-nots now represents "substantially less" than 1 per cent of the Soviet national product. In 1976, it amounted only to 0.05 per cent whereas the comparative figure for the OECD countries was more than 0.3 per cent.

Mr. Richard said that the picture is the same with trade. There has always been a balance of payments advantage for the Soviet Union, amounting to (US)\$2,000 million in 1977. The Soviet share of Third World exports other than oil was less than 4.0 per cent in 1976, while for the European Community and North America it was more than 48.0 per cent.

In 1975, the developing countries accumulated a surplus of (US)\$11,500 million in their trade with the Western countries. Mr. Richard said that aid and trade links between the developing countries and Eastern Europe are similar to the relationship between the Soviet Union and the Third World. But he did not cite any figures.

The communist countries have persisted in their argument that they could not be held responsible for the past colonial practices of the Western countries. They fully support the Third World in its demands for a new world economic order, but they insist that they be not held financially or economically responsible for its implementation.

People

Hulse named president of food science group



IDRC photo

Joseph H. Hulse, director of the food and nutrition sciences division at the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), has become the first Canadian president of the International Union of Food Science and Technology (IUFST). This group promotes international co-operation in food science and technology and includes in its membership regional institutes and academies from 37 countries.

Mr. Hulse formerly was special adviser to the president of CIDA. He has held senior positions with FAO, directed research into food and nutrition with Maple Leaf Mills Ltd. and the Defence Research Medical Laboratories. In 1970 he was special adviser to the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the world protein problem.

Pratt and English to study trade policy and development

Cranford R. Pratt, a political scientist at the University of Toronto, and H. Edward English, an economist at Carleton University, have been awarded research fellowships from the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) to undertake studies in different aspects of trade policy and international development.

Research fellowships offer the opportunity for senior research scholars of recognized excellence to further contribute to the field of development through a year of research, reflection, and writing.

Professor Pratt has spent considerable time serving in academic and government functions in Africa, particularly Tanzania, where he was a special assistant to President Julius Nyerere. He has been chairman of the University of

Toronto international studies program, and principal of University College, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Professor Pratt will take an 18-month sabbatical from the Department of Political Economy in Toronto to research the political economy of Canadian aid, trade, and investment policies towards the Third World.

Dr. English, currently professor of economics at Carleton University, has made significant contributions to economic policy in Canada, and the understanding of Canada's economic and financial relations with other countries. Dr. English has been director of the Center of Canadian Studies, School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University in Washington, Director of the School of International Affairs at Carleton University, and economic consultant to the East African Development Bank.

During the tenure of his Fellowship, Dr. English will undertake a study on the means of achieving effective trade policies among the developing countries, and between them and the more industrially advanced nations, focusing on the members of ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations).

Development education

Teachers learn about Third World at Ottawa conference

International development is often brought into Canadian classrooms through teacher's conferences. Typical of these teacher's conferences was the one sponsored recently at the External Affairs Conference Centre by the Ottawa-Hull Learner Centre.

Contributing their own free time on a Saturday and the modest registration fee of \$10, 27 intermediate and secondary school teachers spent most of the day in workshops and general discussion on international issues and how to relate them to the curriculum.

The conference opened with a speech by a Third World spokesman, Chief M.J.S. Lukumbyza, High Commissioner of Tanzania. The teachers then distributed themselves among workshops on energy, population, food issues, the effects of aid and the market system on the economies of Third World countries, and the benefits and disadvantages of various types of economic development.

Resource persons, representing the International Development Research Centre, Développement et Paix, University of Ottawa, Carleton University, the Ministry of Education, OXFAM, and the farmer's movement, contributed their thoughts and opinions to the workshops.

Multilateral institutions

IFC denounces protectionist trade policies of industrial nations

The prospects for growth in international trade and investment for the developing countries could be seriously affected by the industrial countries moving toward more protectionist policies, the annual report of the International Finance Corporation (IFC) warns.

IFC, an affiliate of the World Bank, reports that the developing countries have showed an unexpectedly favorable economic performance over the past few years despite the failure of the industrial world to recover. Annual GNP growth rates have been about 6 per cent, exports have increased at a rate of about 14 per cent and access to capital markets has improved.

However, the momentum of the developing countries could not be sustained should there be growing protectionism, slower income growth, high unemployment and accelerating inflation in the industrial countries.

Trade with the developing countries has been the most dynamic segment of exports of industrial countries, accounting for more than a fifth of the trade of the industrial countries. The report stresses the need for efforts by industrial countries to adopt such measures as adjustment assistance programs that might help to contribute to rapid growth of world trade and income while, in their turn, developing countries must accept more of the burden of adjustment and promote their exports more effectively.

The purpose of the IFC is to promote the growth of the private sector and to assist productive private enterprises in its less developed member countries where such enterprises can advance economic development.

Of the 108 member countries of IFC, 88 are in the less developed category.

Correction

In the August/September issue of Development Directions a photograph of an insect was used to illustrate the newsfeature on the Desert locust invasions in Africa. The photograph used was of a "bush-hopper" (genus Phymateus). We regret this error and thank D.K. McE. Kevan, professor of entomology at Macdonald College, McGill University, for bringing this to our attention.

Botswana's brigades provide practical training for development

by Ernest Chilisa

Developing countries often give priority to Western-style educational programs to eradicate illiteracy which often creates an educated elite with a largely urban orientation. This type of educational system, inherited from colonial administrations, has achieved much but it has also created problems for the emerging states of Africa. Botswana has been no exception.

One of the problems is the erosion of the people's spirit of self-reliance, self-confidence and independence which occurs because rural connections are severed. Another problem is the creation of an unskilled labor force. Most developing countries are faced with mass unemployment and an acute shortage of skilled labor.

The brigade movement in Botswana is a unique attempt to overcome these shortcomings of the formal education system. It aims to provide primary school leavers with vocational training geared to the needs of the local area. By offering training for gainful employment, it fosters rural development. Training and productive work are combined so that the sale of products made by the students helps cover training costs. Academic and vocational training, both in the classroom and on-the-job, lead to the adoption of development-oriented values, knowledge and skills.

Despite its name, the brigade movement has never had any involvement with military or para-military activities. It was founded in 1965 by Patrick van Rensburg, a former South African diplomat who fled to Botswana in the early 1960s. He quickly realized that Botswana lacked brick-layers, carpenters and other tradesmen, and that the traditional secondary schools could not produce them. Moreover, although additional secondary schools were being built, space was lacking for more than 40 per cent of primary school leavers. In March 1965 he started the Sewore Builders Brigade, named after a similar movement, The Workers Brigades, instituted in Ghana during the Nkrumah period to employ young men and women in productive activities. Since then the brigades have been mushrooming throughout Botswana.

A "Brigade centre" in Botswana is a cluster of brigades organized under a single local governing authority, in a single locality. To date, there are more than 40 brigades-builders, auto-mechanics, carpenters, plumbers, leather tanners, textile workers, all trades that were previously unknown in the country. There are 15 brigade centres, many in rural areas. Enrolment is increasing each year as more school leavers enter the labor market: 85 per cent of



the students are men aged 15 to 20. By 1981, it is expected that 24 brigade centres will train more than 3,000 students.

The training program includes academic subjects such as mathematics, English, development studies and science. Courses last for three years, except for textiles and farming which last two years. After completion, graduates are given certificates that are recognized both by the government and the private sector.

A survey carried out in 1976 showed that 83 per cent of brigade graduates found jobs in their specialty in less than three months after completing their course and that 50 per cent of them were earning better salaries than graduates from formal schools. Some graduates form themselves into syndicates and operate as sub-contractors in building or related industries. A number of primary schools have been built by brigades at a lower cost than if other workers had been used. The work has been excellent. Two hotels have been built using local materials and are owned by brigade centres.

The welding brigade achieved a technical breakthrough when it invented the "Makgonatsothle" tool carrier, an ox-drawn multi-purpose implement for ploughing, planting, cultivating and hauling crops and machinery. This implement is now recommended by the Botswana government for use by the farming communities.

The brigades have also played a major role in lessening Botswana's dependence on neighboring countries for certain goods and services. School uniforms, which used to be imported, are now made locally. The pottery brigades are producing attractive products for the tourist market. Soon, the first bicycle plant operated by a brigade will go into operation.

The brigade program is designed in such a way that the students cover a part of their

training costs through part-time work. Profits are put back into the movement to improve the infrastructure. The movement is funded by the brigades themselves, loans and grants from agencies such as the World Bank, the British and Swedish development agencies, and by private donors like the Mennonite Central Committee and the Unitarian Service Committee of Canada.

The Botswana government has begun to subsidize the training activities by initially paying half of the instructors salaries and providing an annual training allowance of 185 pulas per trainee (approximately US \$260). When trained instructors are not available in Botswana, personnel are provided by the US Peace Corps, the Danish Volunteer Service and the Canadian University Service Overseas.

While the government has not engaged itself in the brigades in the past, it is recognized as an important feature in rural development and non-formal education. The National Development Plan for 1976-1981 provides for 1.9 pulas million (\$2.6 million US) for its development. Already a 300,000 pulas brigade centre is being built in Gaborone to act as a focal point and co-ordinating centre for all brigades.

The extension of the brigade movement has become all the more important since Botswana plans to introduce free education in 1980. The secondary schools will not be able to cope with a larger number of primary school leavers. Botswana's brigades may be the only alternative for the 50 per cent of the students who cannot be accommodated in the formal secondary school system. **DD**

Ernest Ghilisa is a freelance journalist living in Gaborone, Botswana.

(This article is from the International Development Research Centre monthly feature service which provides articles on scientific, technical and educational subjects pertinent to development.)

Head of CIDA-assisted population project in Bangladesh receives major award

Ducks and chickens helped make Tahruneza Ahmed Abdullah the most talked-about woman in Bangladesh in recent months.

She is joint director of the country's Integrated Rural Development Program, and leader of the CIDA-funded component of a massive World Bank population project. Mrs. Abdullah is also the 1978 winner of the Ramon Magsaysay Award in community development for her dedicated work in "leading rural Bengali women from the constraints of purdah toward more equal citizenship and fuller family responsibility."

The Magsaysay Awards, given in honor of the Philippine president killed in a 1957 air accident, are an Asian version of the Nobel Prizes and are presented annually to recognize outstanding leadership.

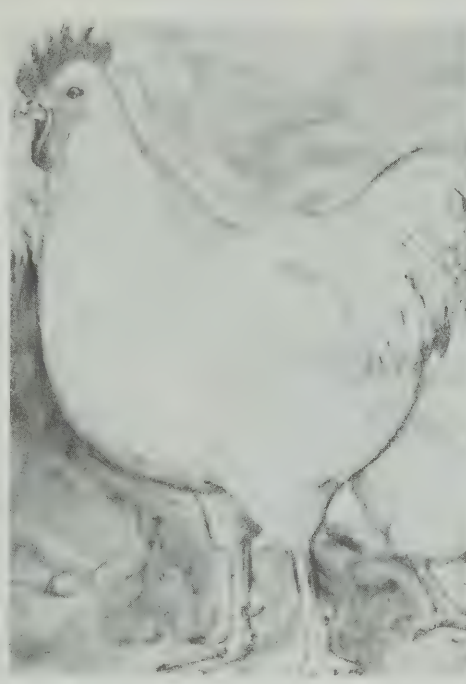
Previous winners include Mother Teresa of Calcutta, political leader and rural development advocate Jayaprakash Narayan, filmmaker Satyajit Ray, and Akhter Hameed Khan, founder of the Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development (BARD) at Comilla. The award consists of \$10,000 and a gold medal.

For many years an instructor at BARD, Mrs. Abdullah is now working on part of a \$46.7 million program supported by the World Bank and six bilateral donors (Australia, Britain, Canada, Germany, Norway and Sweden), aimed at effective social development that will reduce the population growth rate.

The integrated program is centred in the Bangladesh ministry of health, population control and family planning, but this effort is supported by widespread project activity in the ministries of agriculture, labor and social welfare, education, information and broadcasting, and local government, rural development and co-operatives.

CIDA's main contribution has been funding (\$1.7 million from 1976 to 1979) for a pilot project to upgrade the welfare of women, improve their access to government resources, and draw them more fully into the development of rural Bangladesh. The strategy used in pursuing this difficult goal is to enroll village women into small, self-help co-operatives and offer training that will give them the knowledge and skills needed to cope better with daily life.

Canadian money is paying the salaries of field workers and the cost of small loans to help the women's co-operatives purchase essential



supplies — poultry, vegetable seeds and tools. CIDA is also contributing \$250,000 so that field workers will for the first time have training manuals to guide their efforts, and \$300,000 to create a string of health centres that are indirectly related to the project.

Why is this roundabout approach to family planning being taken? Historically, experience shows that a drop in the population growth rate comes after, not before, a rise in living standards. Improve nutrition, medical care, employment and educational opportunities, and people will have fewer babies.

What specifically has resulted so far? There are many small-scale success stories already — cases where a typical group has, for example, turned a \$7 loan into a steady \$15 monthly income within a year by buying hens and going into egg production. Replicated many times in the 480 villages under Mrs. Abdullah's care, these small steps forward mean better family income and a higher status in the community for women, who already play a vital but much-ignored role in Bangladesh agriculture by taking on most of the burden of rice seed storage, paddy processing, caring for livestock and tending vegetable plots.

An added bonus and a catalyst for further change lies in the effect of these village co-operatives and training programs on the participating women: new roles and behavior, group awareness, shared values and social cohesion. **DD**

Economic Council study: an explanation and evaluation of Canadian foreign aid

by Alexander Craig

How does Canada decide its aid policy? The question is best answered by examining the stated policy objectives and achievements, and the actual pattern of aid disbursement. Studying the relationship between what is meant to happen and what actually happens is bound to throw some light on the process as a whole.

Various types of analysis can be used, and the overall assessment should be multidisciplinary. Political analysis and sociological research can offer interesting explanations of why governments act the way they do. Ultimately, of course, it is a question of dollars and cents, so some form of economic analysis is mandatory.

In the Economic Council of Canada study entitled "The Supply of Canadian Foreign Aid: Explanation and Evaluation" two economics professors from the Université de Montréal apply rigorous economic analysis to CIDA's programs. They examine 'observed aid flows' and then evaluate these flows according to different sets of criteria.

They construct, for example, various models and use them to test their empirical findings. The data they use for this is extensive, both from outside Canada and from within—CIDA made available to them "confidential indicative data used in planning for the 1976-82 period."

The study analyses the decisions governing the total amount of aid to be granted to developing countries, the eligibility of certain recipient countries, and the distribution of aid among the recipients deemed eligible.

In essence there are two parts to this study. The first defines and explains aid at some length, and shows the different kinds of benefits it provides to donor and recipient countries. The second, the larger part, is the evaluation of the actual aid program during the 1969-1975 period, comparing it with the criteria laid down by the OECD, other donor countries, and the Canadian government itself.

The first part, on 'public' and 'private goods,' national and international, is a useful primer on how economists measure "foreign aid impact" on different communities. As the authors state, it is the "amount of benefits received and the implicit 'price' of the benefits which determine the supply of foreign aid."

It is good to see the authors remember to point out the importance of informing the public of these benefits, although their belief

that the supply of information will improve, in terms both of quantity and quality, is in present Canadian circumstances, rather optimistic.

The fourth chapter studies multilateral and bilateral aid, but this book largely concerns itself with the latter form. The final three chapters look at how decisions are made as to eligibility and allocation, and then evaluates and criticises the decision-making system.

This is where the meat of the book is, in policy analysis and guidelines for future strategy. They use documented information to make constructive suggestions.

Canada, they find, has a number of inconsistencies in its aid program. There are a large number of interesting tables in this book, and they use a set of them to back up their assertion that Canada's program is more at odds with its stated policy than in most donor countries. The authors show that while there may well be conflicts between the objectives of aiding the poorest countries and helping develop export markets for Canada, this country does not seem to be taking sufficient account of either criteria.

The authors conclude that location in Francophone Africa, membership in the Commonwealth, per capita income of the potential recipient and the sudden occurrence of natural disasters and political crises influence Canada's decision to give aid to a particular developing country and that Canada is influenced more by political than economic factors.

Their access to future strategic data precludes them from going into detail, but they indicate that statistical projections suggest current patterns will continue in most respects. Eligibility and allocation decisions, they argue, should be harmonized, and made within one administrative unit. They also call for more aid to be untied, and more directed to least favored groups in the poorest countries.

The conclusion of the book draws attention to the complexities and dilemmas involved in the whole aid business, and how it "demands an increasing degree of intervention by Canadians in the lives of residents of distant countries. If the governments of these countries themselves are unwilling to deal with the problem in a satisfactory manner, it is unlikely that the intervention of Canadian administrators will assure success."

Nonetheless, constructive and documented criticism such as this helps to give guidance to policy and to the informed public. The amplitude of this study gives weight to the authors' arguments for administrative structures more attuned to Canadian aid objectives. **DD**

Alexander Craig is a widely-published freelance journalist living in Lennoxville, Quebec, specializing in international affairs. He holds a PhD degree in political science from Manchester University and has taught journalism and politics at University of Western Ontario.

The Gleave Report: how Canadian farmers can help their Third World counterparts

by Henry F. Heald

Rural Canadians can contribute the practical know-how to help agricultural development projects take root in the Third World, according to a report by Alfred P. Gleave, a Saskatchewan farmer, former New Democratic Party Member of Parliament and long-time leader in farm organizations.

Mr. Gleave sees the role of the Canadian farmer as a practical journeyman training apprentices in the actual working of farm operation. It would complement the expertise of the professional agrologist and administrator.

There would be an additional spin-off benefit in many developing countries—people would see the white man as a worker and not just a boss.

Funds for increased farmer participation in development projects would be best handled through non-governmental organizations, Mr. Gleave suggests. He says the current allotment of funds for such work should be doubled with a provision for further increases as more such aid projects are undertaken and expanded.

Mr. Gleave's views are presented in "The Canadian Rural Community in International Development," a study commissioned by the Canadian International Development Agency.

During the six-month study, Mr. Gleave visited international development agencies in Norway, Sweden, Holland and Britain, talked to the International Labour Organization in Geneva and the Food and Agricultural Organization in Rome, made on-site inspections of aid projects in Africa and the Caribbean, and spoke to co-operatives, farm organizations and other institutions in Canada.

The study was commissioned by the Non-Governmental Organizations Division of CIDA as part of its program of involving the private sector in international development.

"It is evident that some farm organizations and the people whom they represent in rural communities are willing to take part in aid programs in the developing countries," he writes in his conclusions. "It should be possible to use the skills of the practical farmer or rural person in conjunction with those of the scientific and academic people in our aid programs."

Mr. Gleave describes several agricultural development programs in Tanzania, Zaire, Zambia and Barbados where Canadian farmers have contributed effectively. He also praises the work of Canadian farm organizations:



After 25 years of wheat farming in Western Canada, this CIDA cooperator provides valuable help to a Tanzanian farmer.
CIDA photo: Roger Levett

- the Mennonite Central Committee which operates a food bank through which individual farmers contribute grain for aid,
- the Ontario Federation of Agriculture which has contributed funds to specific aid projects including one in Senegal being operated by a former OFA director and her husband,
- the National Farmers Union which has offered to find 250 farms in Canada on which Third World students could train, and to recruit 250 Canadian farmers who will work on projects overseas.

He says a first step is to convene a meeting of a dozen or more of the farm and co-operative organizations with a view to setting up an office and a secretariat to co-ordinate the work of those who want to become involved.

Training and recruiting could be done along lines similar to those used by the Canadian University Service Overseas (CUSO). Volunteers should be prepared to stay for at least a year and preferably two if they are to be effective.

Mr. Gleave was impressed with the four co-operative training institutes: Co-operative College of Canada in Saskatoon, l'Institute Co-operative Desjardins in Levis, Quebec, the Coady International Institute in Antigonish, Nova Scotia, and Le Centre d'Etudes en Economie Co-operative in Sherbrooke, Quebec, and would use them to train farmer volunteers.

"They have the experience and the facilities to train or prepare rural people who might wish to take part in aid programs."

He says they have all contributed to aid projects and put the emphasis on personal contact and coming to grips with the everyday problems of the Third World communities. **DD**

Henry Heald is agriculture reporter for the Ottawa Journal. He is also president of the Eastern Canada Farm Writers Association.

Alberta: Third World development seminar

by Kathy Keely

Comparisons between Alberta's early developmental problems and those now experienced in Third World countries emerged from the recent seminar entitled "Challenge for change in Third World agriculture" sponsored by Canada's International Development Centre (IDRC) and the Alberta Institute of Agrologists.

Ivan Head, president of IDRC, pointed out to about 200 University of Alberta faculty members, regional farm representatives and research scientists that "Edmonton did not always look as sparkling and dynamic as it now does," and that it was not long ago that Alberta had many of the attributes of a developing country.

"Alberta reared an entire generation painfully familiar with the vulnerability and fragility of a single-sector economy, the very circumstance of so many less developed countries today . . . the lessons learned by that generation, are now in vital need of transmission not only to developing countries for their benefit but as well to a generation in this province whose personal histories have been written entirely in the post-Leduc period," he said.

He urged Albertans to transmit their relevant development experiences to the peoples of Third World countries. Mr. Head's message was not simply that developing countries need the benefit of Canada's experience, however. He pointed out that Canadians also need the developing countries.

Markets of immense potential are to be found in the developing countries, he told the Albertans. "The more developed they become, the more they purchase from the industrialized countries, as indeed they are now doing . . . A burgeoning economy in one of the new developing countries, inclined to be friendly towards Canada by reason of a sympathetic Canadian foreign policy and an enlightened development assistance policy, offers great attraction to industry here."

Nevertheless, he insisted that economic self-interest is not the only reason Canadians should provide development assistance. Equally imperative, he said, is for Canada to promote political stability and peace; sound environmental practices; the curbing of contagious disease; equitable access to unevenly distributed resources; and basic humanitarian principles.



Seminar suggests that developing countries could benefit from Alberta's agricultural experience.
FAO photo: F. Botts

Michael McGarry who is in charge of the IDRC's program of water supply and sanitation research was discussing the use of farm wastes as recyclable material when a farmer in the audience asked if the backyard biogas digesters used in India to convert excreta to fuel for lighting and cooking could be used to cut fossil fuel consumption on Canadian farms.

Dr. McGarry said it is a distinct possibility. Now, however, he said it is of marginal utility in Canada because of the comparatively low cost of fossil fuel in this country. Questions of common interest to farmers in Canada and the Third World cropped up a number of times during the seminar.

"It's within my memory that many Canadian faculties did not have vigorous research elements," said George Dion, agricultural specialist with the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) during a panel discussion on agriculture research. Not long ago, he said, Canadian universities were in the same situation as those in developing countries.

Nihal Kappagoda, a Sri Lankan economist who is now international vice-president of the IDRC and formerly director of the external resources division of his country's ministry of planning and employment, gave some global comparisons between the Third World and the developed countries:

- three-fourths of the world population living in the Third World earn only one-fifth of total world income;
- North America has a per capita income 30 times the average for Asia and Canada's per capita income of \$7,500 compares with \$200 in Sri Lanka;

- subsistence agriculture is a source of livelihood for two-thirds of the work force in Asia and Africa and two-fifths of the work force in Latin America—this compares with 4 per cent engaged in commercial farming in North America;
- one-half the world adult population is illiterate and one-third of primary school age children have no school to go to;
- one-quarter of the Third World population is undernourished and disease-prone compared with 3 per cent in developed countries;
- life expectancy at birth in developing countries is on average 53 years compared with 72 in developed countries.

Mr. Kappagoda said that the expansion of Canada's foreign aid programs in the 1970s has been spectacular, but the proposed cut-back for next year will reduce the aid program's share of the GNP from 0.51 per cent in 1977 to 0.46 per cent with no prospect of when the upward trend will be resumed.

In the absence of public support for international development, said Mr. Kappagoda, there is the danger that the leadership exercised by Canada in the OECD and other international forums will be lost.

"Canada could also lapse into protectionism as an easy way out of the present difficulties. The latter would affect the middle income developing countries adversely. Britain expanded foreign aid even when she went through her worst economic difficulties," he told the audience.

This seminar was one of a series organized by the IDRC as part of a continuing effort to inform the Canadian public about the current state of development research. **DD**

Kathy Keely is an IDRC information officer.

Report on the Sixth International Bread and Cereals Congress

by Roger Newman

The world food crisis is far from over.

And if this problem is ignored, there could ultimately be international turmoil and economic chaos unmatched in previous history.

That was the recurrent theme of leading grain scientists, government officials and representatives of international organizations who gathered in Winnipeg in September for the

Sixth International Cereal and Bread Congress. The congress, which was always held in Europe until this year, attracted 2,000 delegates from 55 countries. Officially, they came to discuss the topic "Cereals '78: Better Nutrition for the World's Millions." But in their formal addresses, interviews and private conversations, the congress' more than 200 distinguished speakers kept hammering home one key point—namely that a sense of urgency must be retained about ensuring adequate world food supplies.



There was a strong feeling among those at the week-long congress that the global grain surpluses of the past couple of years have tended to obscure the worsening food plight of the developing nations. In fact, the congress' two key speakers—Gerald Vogel, executive director of the United Nations' World Food Program, and Norman Borlaug of Mexico's International Corn and Wheat Improvement Centre—were unanimous that tragedy is just around the corner if the needs of developing countries are ignored.

Mr. Vogel set the problem in perspective when he told delegates that instead of gaining ground, the developing nations are recording increasing deficits in their domestic food production.

According to the WFP executive director, per capita food production in the developing world has been "virtually stagnant" since 1970, increasing by only .2 per cent versus .7 per cent in the 1960s. The worst situation exists in 45 low-income countries, mostly in the Far East and sub-Saharan Africa, where grain production has either declined or barely kept pace with population growth in the past half decade. And because of faltering production figures, the number of under-nourished people in the developing market economies has risen by nearly 15 per cent in the 1970s, increasing to 455 millions from 401 millions.

"The core of the world food problem lies in meeting the rapidly growing food needs of the developing countries," said Mr. Vogel who was chief commissioner of the Canadian Wheat Board until he moved to Rome a year ago to head the WFP.

"There is no room for complacency and this problem cannot be solved by ad hoc crash programs. It will require sustained efforts over several decades by the developing countries themselves, with the active co-operation of the developed countries and the international organizations concerned." Later, in an interview, Mr. Vogel made a strong plea for developed countries to maintain or increase their commitments to world food programs. He said developing nations need food assistance at this time to help their economies advance to the point where they can buy other products that industrialized countries want to sell them. As these nations progress, they will need more than food and that will become markets which the developed countries require urgently. But if the developed countries turn their backs—by denying assistance and by

erecting tariff barriers against the less fortunate nations—then the world could eventually be plunged into "the worst economic depression imaginable."

Mr. Vogel also expressed the "earnest hope" that an internationally co-ordinated system of national food reserves will soon be established to ensure continuity of food aid at adequate levels.

"The food crisis of 1972-74 is too recent for us to forget the lesson that it is the poor in all countries who bear most of the burden of higher prices and reduced consumption, forced on the world by inadequate stocks . . . and that for the poor of the developing countries the burden often becomes intolerable."

The WFP executive director said that as a result of 1970's trends, it will be impossible to eradicate world hunger and malnutrition in a decade — the goal that was set in 1974 by the World Food Conference. But if developed countries grasp the severity of the problem and adopt suitable policies, then it should be possible to meet the "food, shelter and other basic needs of the world's poor" by the end of the century.

A similar call for immediate action was voiced by Dr. Borlaug who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1970 for his work in developing new high-yielding wheat varieties. Originally from Iowa and now head of wheat programs at Mexico's International Corn and Wheat Improvement Centre, Dr. Borlaug said governments must demonstrate the political will and the economic commitment necessary to ensure that the world's population will have enough to eat by the year 2015. He said that in 40 years, the world's population will require double the total 3.3 billion metric tons of food that was produced in 1975. And this increase will have to be attained by using essentially the same land now under cultivation, even though the world's population will then exceed six billions as compared with the present four billion.

"Production can be increased to the needed level if we can keep political and economic leaders with their feet to the fire," said Dr. Borlaug who also won the United States' Presidential Medal of Freedom last year.

"But in order to do this, government leaders will have to set priorities and develop wise policies to support agricultural research and production improvements. . . . And they will have to spend more money on food than on armaments."

According to Dr. Borlaug, the developed nations place too much emphasis on human

rights issues and too little on helping developing countries to raise their food production." People in underdeveloped countries are more concerned about basic requirements for survival than about human rights violations that may occur within their borders. When you don't have the six basic things—food to eat, a shirt on your back, a roof over your head, a job, schools for your children and medical treatment—human rights are secondary."

The food scientist and humanitarian—who also forecast anarchy if the food challenge is not met—cited India as an example of a country where "positive developments" are taking place. Cereal grain production in India will reach about 30 million tonnes this year, three times the amount produced in 1966. But unfortunately, public attention seems to be riveted on the world's trouble spots, with the result that this accomplishment has not received the publicity it deserves.

Dr. Borlaug said prospects for obtaining additional food supplies from ocean beds are "unrealistic" to a large extent. To avoid malnutrition on a vast scale, there will have to be higher yields on present arable land. And as a consequence, arguments against the use of chemical fertilizers, pesticides and herbicides are "nonsense."

"Those arguments come from people who have never had empty stomachs." A former Canadian—Glen Anderson—who is now associate director of Dr. Borlaug's wheat improvement program in Mexico—told the Congress that if countries work together across all political boundaries, they should be able to provide food for twice the world's present population within 35 years. But he also said population control will have to be practised around the globe if food production increases are to have any real meaning.

"Make no mistake, agricultural research and the farmers can only buy a very short time. The problem is one of man's survival and the welfare of the whole race is paramount. Although much has been written on the subject, action on population control has been far too limited. And it remains the overburdening and basic problem which must be solved."

He said a few developing countries, such as China and India, are making gains in population control, but there are still major increases in births being reported in Latin America, the Arab and African countries and Eastern Europe.

"Education, good health and adequate incomes are ultimately supposed to be the real answer to small families. But I submit that there is not time for this to occur—and coercive force is more likely to be needed, in spite of our abhorrence of the curtailment of individual human rights."

Meanwhile, a U.S. Department of Agriculture scientist—Yeshajahu Pomeranz—made a plea for governments in developed nations to increase their agricultural research budgets. Dr. Pomeranz, who is director of the U.S. Grain Marketing Research Laboratory in Manhattan, Kansas, said that while research budgets may seem to be increasing on the surface, too many government scientists are currently concerned with enforcing product standards, rather than with working on advanced technology.

"Decision-makers who dole out funds are never hungry and don't understand why agricultural research should be increased. But the same decision makers do get sick, so there is money available for medical research."

Speaking for the developing countries, Ahmed Shinawi, director of Saudi Arabia's Grain Silos and Flour Mills Organization, said progress is being made as his country, for example, will be producing an estimated 50 per cent of its domestic wheat requirements within five years. In addition, he said, Saudi Arabia is spending \$260 millions at the moment on the construction of three large milling complexes and a huge silo for storing locally-grown wheat.

"Mechanization is becoming a tool in our agricultural development plan. Right at the beginning, we have recognized the need for know-how, both technical and managerial. We do not think that developing countries have to learn on the basis of trial and error. And if local know-how is not available, it is both advisable and more economical in the long-run to import it."

The overall message of the Congress—which was largely organized by a federal agency, the Canadian International Grains Institute—was that developed nations, including Canada, cannot relent in their efforts to assist developing countries. Despite present "cosmetic" discussion of grain surpluses, the world will have to produce as much food in the next 3.5 decades as it did in the previous 1,000 decades. And if this vital statistic is ignored, there is a very good chance that political and economic instability will erupt around the globe. **DD**

Roger Newman is a Winnipeg-based free-lance writer specializing in business, politics and agriculture.

New directions for VADA and federal-provincial co-operation on aid programs

by Sharleen Bannon

Not all provincial governments are happy with the current state of a three-year-old organization within CIDA that makes funds available to them to ship donated food and other commodities to needy Third World Countries.

Most of the provinces want a new definition of the purpose, operational procedures and future direction of VADA—the Voluntary Agricultural Development Aid program. Alberta, Prince Edward Island, Saskatchewan and Quebec delegates are drafting such a proposal to present to the next VADA meeting tentatively scheduled for early February in Edmonton.

This action grew out of the deliberations of the recent two-day meeting of this low-key and little-publicized federal-provincial organization. Several provincial delegates said they would like VADA re-defined because they feel its usefulness as now constituted is limited. They feel it does not provide the type of CIDA-provincial link in the field of international development that most provinces would like.

This is understandable because the circumstances in both the developing countries and in Canada which gave rise to the formation of VADA in the aftermath of the 1975 World Food Conference have changed.

VADA was born in the wake of the disastrous food shortages in some parts of the developing world during the early 1970s. The organization was an outgrowth of a proposal made by Saskatchewan's Premier Allan Blakeney and supported by all other provinces at a 1975 meeting of the provincial premiers with the prime minister after the Rome Food Conference.

Since its formation in 1976, shipping charges for such diverse commodities as milk powder, pea beans, dairy cattle, baby food, agricultural implements, insecticide, dairy cattle semen, clothing, and a tractor donated by provinces and voluntary organizations in British Columbia, Ontario, Quebec, Alberta, Saskatchewan have been authorized by VADA and paid for by CIDA. [see chart on p. 13 and the May /78 DD p. 9 for details.]

Despite these valuable contributions to international aid efforts, delegates to the most recent VADA meeting agreed that the days of Canadian food surpluses available for donation to developing countries are over.

The provinces have been increasingly adamant at recent VADA meetings in saying that they would like VADA to expand its mandate to include the broader field of agricultural development. CIDA has agreed and some provinces have already taken such initiatives.

Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Saskatchewan have recently received funding through VADA for agricultural development projects totally unrelated to commodity shipments. Prince Edward Island and Saskatchewan have received VADA funding to initiate plans to invite farmers from some developing countries to visit Canadian farms for a series of seminars on family farms in Prince Edward Island and Saskatchewan. [see DD May '78, p. 8].

Nova Scotia has received \$22,000 to help defray travel and living expenses for 17 fishermen from Belize who recently attended the Fisheries Training Centre at Pictou, Nova Scotia. The Nova Scotia government paid for the teachers and facilities. Fisheries and forestry are included under the VADA program in a broad interpretation of agriculture. [see DD, Aug./Sept. '78 p. 6].

Both CIDA and the provincial governments have for the past few months been trying to decide how best to revamp the VADA mandate and operational procedures to better respond to new types of provincial initiative in the field of international development assistance to the Third World.

The discussions during the seventh and most recent VADA meeting centred on this. Several provincial delegates made suggestions about the future of VADA.

The Saskatchewan delegate, Ken Johns, while admitting that each province has a different type of relationship with CIDA, said that his province would like to see VADA provide a broader forum for discussion of provincial input into development assistance programs in Third World countries. He said he had difficulty finding the right channel to formally approach CIDA to discuss possible joint CIDA-Saskatchewan projects in the Third World.

He said Saskatchewan would like to make its expertise and resources available to CIDA for international development purposes. He also expressed concern that VADA does not have a high enough profile in CIDA as a federal-provincial program.

Mr. Johns, who is executive director of the extension and rural development division in the Saskatchewan agriculture department, echoed the sentiments of other delegates when he expressed concern that CIDA's recent proposal to place VADA within the newly-created Food Aid Co-ordination and Evaluation centre (FACE) within CIDA's multi-lateral programs branch might restrict VADA's future activities to the food aid area.

VADA was formerly the responsibility of an administrator who reported directly to a vice-president of CIDA.

The concern about VADA "getting lost" in CIDA was responded to by Margaret Catley-Carlson, CIDA's vice-president for multilateral programs and chairman of the VADA meeting. She said that placing VADA with the food aid group is merely a proposal and is not meant to restrict VADA activities to the narrow area of commodity shipping.

The Alberta delegate, Ray Verge, director of that province's special programs, asked whether the provinces should form a provincial council on aid to the Third World to replace VADA and include on the new body representatives from voluntary organizations involved in development and some members of the business community.

He too seemed to express the feeling of several other provincial representatives when he said, "I think VADA should continue, but I don't know how it should continue."

Provinces with funds earmarked for Third World development assistance activities—

Alberta, Saskatchewan, and British Columbia—expressed a desire for closer co-ordination with CIDA's Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO) division.

Even those provinces without government funds available for Third World development assistance expressed support for the continuation of VADA as a federal-provincial forum on international aid but asked how they could participate if they have neither funds for NGOs nor surplus food to donate as food aid.

Delegates from Manitoba, Newfoundland and Ontario said their provinces would be willing to investigate making agricultural experts available for secondment to CIDA for Third World projects much as Nova Scotia had done with its above-mentioned fisheries project.

This proposal met with a generally favorable response from the CIDA officials present.

Mrs. Catley-Carlson noted the overall desire of the provincial delegates not to have VADA restricted to the commodities shipment function and to expand into the rural development field.

CIDA's president, Michel Dupuy, later reiterated this point. He told the provincial delegates that he "got the message loud and clear that the provinces have an interest in participating in international development on a wider plane than food aid." The CIDA president said he encourages the continued development of VADA outside the food aid area.

Bill Burnett, administrator of the VADA program since its inception says he is optimistic about the future of the organization.

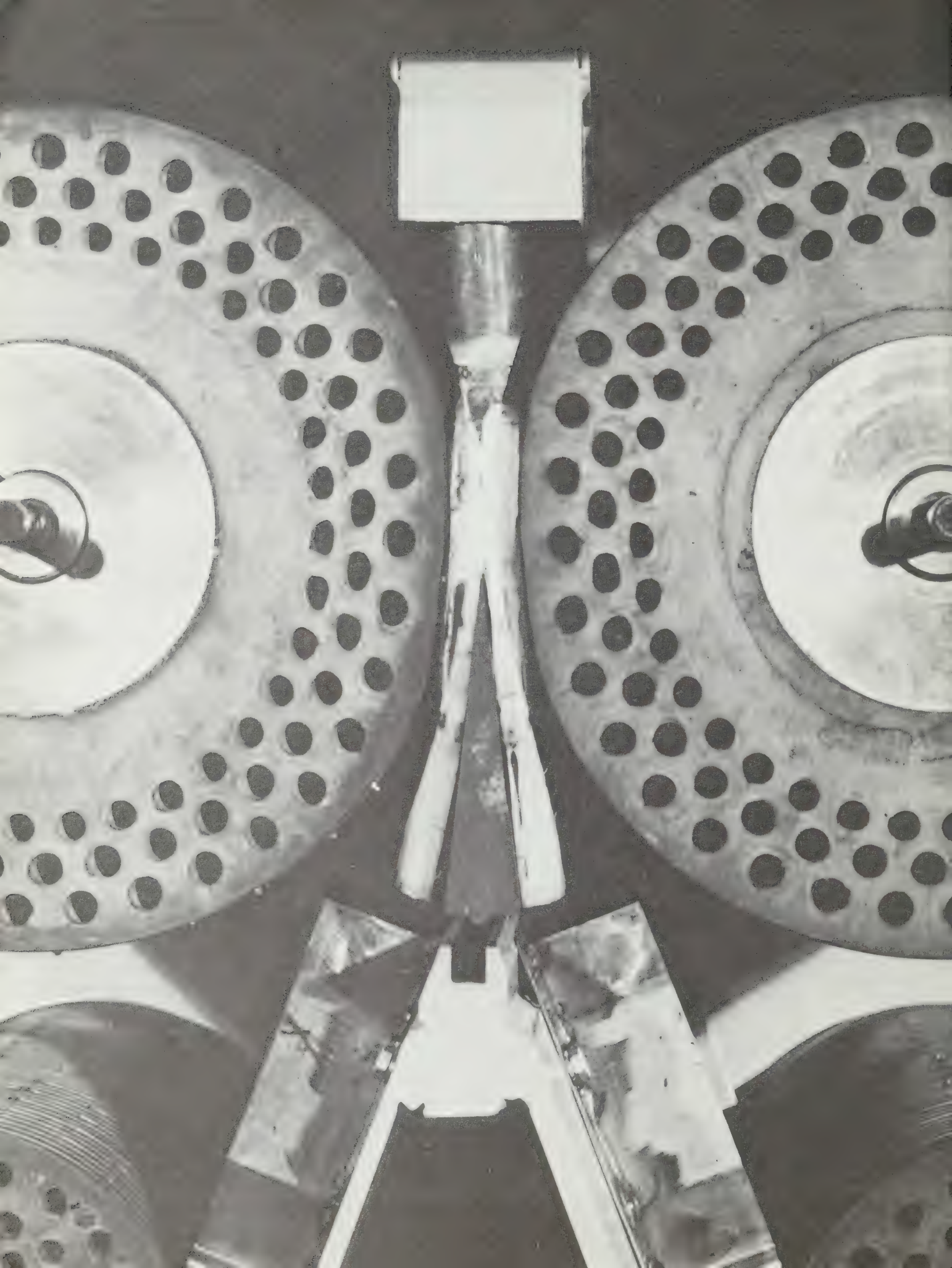
"The excellent discussions and decision by four provinces to meet and bring to VADA the provincial positions will make VADA into a robust forum and action centre for agricultural and rural development as well as food shipments and transfer of non-food agriculturally-related items," he said.

The next VADA meeting is likely to be crucial in deciding the fate of this unique federal-provincial organization. **DD**

Sharleen Bannon is editor of *Development Directions*.

Commodity shipments under VADA auspices, 1978

| Province | Provincial contribution | Amount of provincial contribution | Federal contribution | Amount of federal contribution | Recipient | Date of transaction |
|------------------|--|-----------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|--|---------------------|
| Alberta | Cooking oil, sugar and tinned meat through the Mennonite Central Committee | \$224,256 | Shipping costs | \$ 22,256 | Mennonite Central Committee in Thailand | July 1978 |
| | Skimmed milk powder through UNICEF | \$ 99,000 | Shipping costs | \$ 17,771 | UNICEF Committee in Haiti | July 1978 |
| | 75 tons of beet sugar through Canadian Red Cross for use as a food supplement | \$224,256 | Shipping costs | \$ 25,350 | Canadian Red Cross in Mauritania | July 1978 |
| | 1 tractor | \$ 9,500 | Shipping costs | \$ 2,787 | Save the Children Fund, Lesotho | September 1978 |
| | Milk powder | \$132,400 | Shipping costs | \$ 18,070 | Lutheran World Federation in Mozambique, Botswana and Zambia | September 1978 |
| British Columbia | Whole wheat flour, potato flakes and powdered milk through Food for the Hungry, Vancouver | \$ 42,000 | Shipping costs | \$ 15,592 | Children HELP in Kabeta, Nairobi, Kenya | September 1978 |
| Quebec | Skimmed milk powder through CARITAS, Montreal | \$ 30,000 | Shipping costs | \$ 5,849 | CARITAS Dominican Republic | July 1978 |
| Saskatchewan | 12 shipments of Dimethoate insecticide to fight the desert locust infestation in the Horn of Africa and Eastern Africa | \$1.2 million | Shipping costs | \$600,000 | FAO Locust Control Centres in the Middle East and Kenya | July-August 1978 |



SUGAR TECHNOLOGY

CANADA ASSISTS CARIBBEAN SUGAR PRODUCERS TO REVIVE A FAILING INDUSTRY

by Brian Upton

Canadian and Barbadian experts are perfecting a Canadian invention at Uplands, Barbados that is expected to turn the troubled, centuries-old sugar industry into a series of multi-product factories producing high-value goods.

The Canadian cane separation technology holds incalculable potential benefits for all the sugarcane producing countries which make up 80 per cent of the Third World.

The separator, invented in the '60s, divides sugarcane into three parts — the waxy outer layer or epidermis, the rind and the sugar pith.

The tough rind fibres are being turned into panel boards and constructional lumber on an experimental basis. The sugarcane pith is being used as a high-energy feed for beef and dairy cattle in Trinidad. Separation improves the economics of sugar production and would make cheaper conversion of sugars into ethyl alcohol, a renewable source of energy.

The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) is funding the development of the separator technology at Uplands Sugar Factory in Barbados and the cane-feed trials in Trinidad.

A third CIDA project is to introduce small-scale sugar and fibre use to the smaller islands which abandoned sugar production years ago because it became uneconomic. These countries now must

import sugar as well as wood and fibre products.

CIDA has invested \$11 million in bilateral funds in the three phases of the project since 1969. For the Caribbean Islands, the technology means by-products that could double the value of the sugar they now produce at a loss, and create wood products industries that could produce better homes at reasonable prices. In addition to foreign exchange savings the economic spinoffs include a substitute for imported wood and oil, job creation, construction, transportation and related activities.

For Canada the technology holds promise of a new secondary manufacturing industry producing a family of machines for integrated industries in the 80 sugarcane producing countries of the world.

Sugar factory engineers and technologists in Barbados say the separator system indicates the end of an era in the industry which had changed little since the invention of the steam engine.

In the old system, cane is crushed under heavy rollers in a mill train. It is a ponderous process mashing epidermis, rind and sugar pith together. The juice is extracted leaving a mass of broken rind fibres and debris called bagasse. The bagasse had only low value as fuel for the steam generators of the old mill and up to 20 per cent of it was dumped.

Tests have shown that there is enough cane fibre material in the surplus bagasse in Barbados to supply the needs of a board and wood products manufacture.

The precise, high-speed separation technology divides foot-long cane billets into three components in a fraction of a second. Since the rind is separated before sugar juice extraction, the process is low in energy consumption compared with the old system. Instead of being destroyed in the mill train, the cane fibres are conserved.

In an interview in September, Lionel Smith, co-ordinator of the Uplands project for the Barbados government said the cane sugar industry must move into the separation technology. "Sugar prices are falling: We are not going to get much

higher prices and yet we can't get out of sugar production," he noted.

"We must look at the new technology because we must find other uses for cane. If we can make fibre board we can stay in sugar and lower the cost so that it becomes economic. I think sugar will become the byproduct of the board manufacture. There must be total utilization of the crop."

Executives of Barbados Sugar Factories, Ltd., agreed that a new approach was needed to process cane. Barbados needs an integrated industry from the crop to improve the economics of the industry. Board, construction panels and structural lumber from cane fibre would replace imports for construction of homes and other buildings. Sugar-based alcohol could replace up to 20 per cent of imported fuel as it now does in Brazil, they noted. The sugar-based alcohol is mixed with gasoline in Brazil and used in motor vehicles. Brazil keeps increasing alcohol production to reduce oil imports.

Dr. B.C. Warnars, a sugarcane agronomist and CIDA consultant in Barbados has been close to the new technology which was invented in 1964 by two Western Canadians, Bob Miller and Ted Tilby, both of whom hold patent rights to the separators and associated machines.

"More progress has been made in the new technology in the past two years than in all the other years together," said Dr. Warnars.

"The technology works. It is just a question of making the changes to reach a viable production level. When the machine can separate 5,000 tons of cane a week — Eureka! we'll be there."

David West, a Barbadian, is a consultant to D.M. Simpsons, Ltd., a Barbados engineering firm, and a key sugar technologist. Mr. West also indicated that the major modifications have been made to the technology. What remains are some refinements.

With reference to impatience in some quarters on the time it is taking to get the technology off the ground, he said: "Ten years experimental work with the separator is not that long. The concept

is so revolutionary that much of our past technical experience in sugar does not apply."

"It took General Motors 15 years to develop a diesel turbine for use here."

Two Canadian companies have been licensed to develop components of the technology. Hawker-Siddeley Canada Ltd., of Vancouver a British-owned multinational corporation has rights to produce sugar and byproducts while Intercane Systems Inc., of Windsor, a subsidiary of ARVID Machine and Tool Co., Ltd., is licensed to build separators designed for extracting sugar pith for animal feed.

Despite the potential of the technology, its development was plagued with problems. Progress to its current state of development was often frustrating and painful.

In the early '60s the inventors, Bob Miller a contractor and Ted Tilby an architect, were building schools in Alberta and on the lookout for cheaper building materials. Mr. Miller visited a sugar factory while vacationing in the Caribbean.

He was struck by the apparent strength of the cane fibres and the ponderous mills that destroyed them. He saw the potential of the fibres and thought about how they would be separated from the pith.

Mr. Tilby, who combines mechanical genius with the imagination of an artist, began building the separator.

Mr. Miller who now studies in England and Mr. Tilby formed Canadian Cane Equipment (CCE) and Canadian Cane Consultants to develop cane separators to extract sugar from cane pith and rind.

Through financing from the Royal Bank of Canada, Roy West Bank of the Bahamas and Czarnikow Ltd., of London, England, and a grant of \$760,950 from Canada's federal department of Industry Trade and Commerce, (under a new product development program), CCE began pilot plant operations in the mid-'60s in St. Kitts, one of the Leeward Islands, with a 40-ton per hour separator.

Although experiments in board-making and core panels brought excellent results, a number of problems went unsolved, particularly those relating to the commercial application of the technology in the sugar industry.

During the late '60s, CCE decided to exploit the animal feed aspect of sugarcane pith in an effort to sell the technology to the livestock industry.

Then CIDA, whose priorities in the Caribbean are job creation and food production, funded CCE's cane-feed study



A ton of sugarcane in Uplands, Barbados is loaded onto a conveyer which carries it to a cleaning

using the separator with a grant of \$900,000 provided in November 1969.

The study proved that the sugar-bearing cane pith (renamed comfith and now called sugarfith) — with certain additives such as urea which cattle can convert to protein — was an economical feed that could pave the way for top-quality, large-scale beef production on the islands for the first time. Top quality beef and dairy products are largely imported for the tourist trade.

Since most of the Caribbean islands have little grazing land, sugarcane is the only economical crop that could be used for animal feed. A whole new feedlot cattle industry based on sugarfith feeds, similar to grain feedlots in Canada, could be developed.

The CCE's separators proved too expensive for livestock producers who had no ready use for cane rind. Studies showed that a feeding program for upwards of 1,000 head of cattle when integrated with separator technology and board production would be viable. On a smaller scale it was uneconomic.

Eugene Donefer, project director of University of the West Indies-McGill Sugarcane Feeds Centre, (SFC) in Trinidad noted that a low-priced cane-chopper perfected in Brazil cost about \$1,000 compared with a CCE separator selling for \$35,000 in the early '70s.



system before it is fed — in foot-long billets — into the separator. Photo: John de Bondt.

"When you are feeding more than 1,000 animals, the cost of the machine is not important and with a separator you get the rind by-product," Dr. Donefer said in an interview in September.

Later feeding trials at the SFC indicated that whole cane processed by the chopper was as efficient as sugarfith produced from separators. The SFC's share of CIDA's \$11 million funding is \$4.5 million. These funds have been used to build and equip the centre.

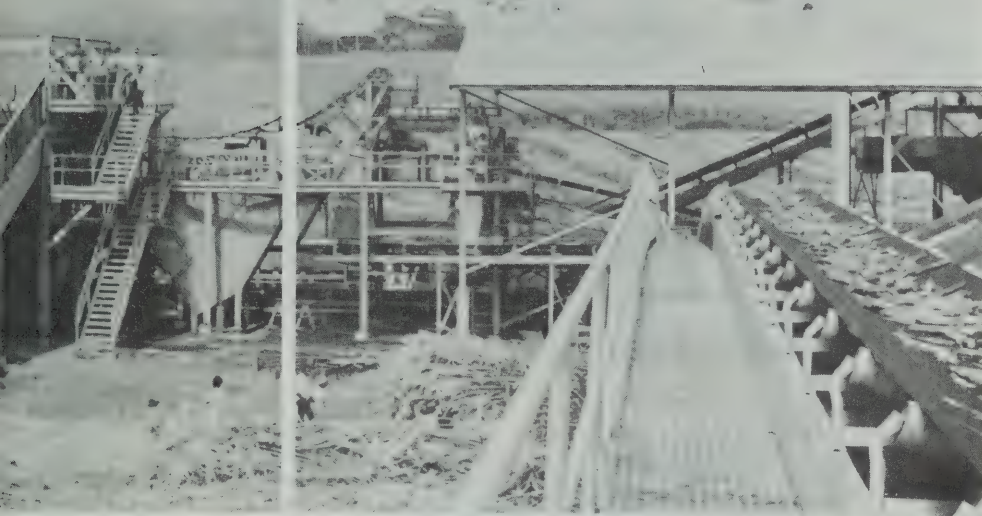
Interest of the Barbados government and the Barbados Sugar Factories (BSF) in the technology for sugar production led to an agreement for a CIDA loan of \$1,650,000 in January 1973. BSF owns all sugar mills in Barbados. Sugar farmers own the majority of shares in BSF.

CIDA's long term objective is to "establish the commercial and technical viability of the separation process, thus indicating its potential development impact for other less developed countries."

Under the agreement, CIDA pledged to provide a separator operated at 40 tons of cane per hour for a continuous period of 72 hours and to train local counterpart staff.

Work began in July 1973 and the equipment was completed and installed by July, 1974. Engineering and technical problems which were not solved at St. Kitts in the '60s surfaced again at

THE RATIONALE FOR CIDA'S SUPPORT OF SUGARCANE TECHNOLOGY



CIDA has been supporting the Canadian-invented sugar-cane separation technology because of its huge potential impact on 80 developing countries where sugarcane is grown. The sugar cane is the most efficient plant around for converting solar energy into plant material that can be turned into a wide spectrum of high-value goods.

The rationale:

- Full byproduct utilization of sugarcane is urgent for creation of labor-intensive activities in areas of high unemployment;
- sugarcane has new end product potential;
- the economics of sugar production can be improved because less energy is consumed in the separation technique while the byproduct can lower the unit cost of sugar production;
- there is a potential for revenue from fibre.

Suitability for inclusion in the development program:

- Improved efficiency in an increasingly uneconomic industry,
- protection of jobs in an important agricultural sector,
- production of indigenous construction material,
- substitution for traditional wood imports,
- renewable resource energy supply,
- substitution for imported oil, conservation, balance of payments benefits, cattle feed production and increased protein supply from dairy and meat industry,
- substitution for imported dairy products, meat and cattle feeds, protection of rapidly depleted forest resources by satisfying wood-product demand from non-wood fibres,
- resultant ecological protection, watershed protection, soil conservation and protection from desertification.

All of the above is possible from a traditional crop which is the most efficient converter of solar energy into biomass.

DD

Uplands. It became evident that a system of cane cleaning prior to separation was required to prevent jamming along with the need for other modifications. Sandwell Engineering Company of Vancouver held the contract for the installation and operation of the plant under CIDA grant funds of \$494,000.

Further complications arose when CCE went into voluntary bankruptcy in October 1974. The plant was not ready for the 1975 cane season which started six weeks later (in Barbados the cane season runs between February and mid-June). When tests began towards the end of the season, the separator broke down permanently.

Since Canada's Industry Trade and Commerce Department had provided development funds to CCE, it purchased the patents of the original process and assigned them to Canadian Patents and Development Ltd., (CPDL) a Crown corporation, which reports to the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce.

After inviting a number of Canadian companies to participate in the technology during the course of 1975, CPDL then assigned license rights to Hawker-Siddeley and ARVID.

To keep the technology going, CIDA sent a team of experts to St. Kitts in 1976 to evaluate two 20-ton separators, manufactured by CCE in 1966, that were privately owned.

One of the separators was borrowed and brought to Uplands and refurbished by ARVID.

Tests during the 1977 season were encouraging. The refurbished machine removed pith from the cane rind at an average rate of 22 tons an hour.

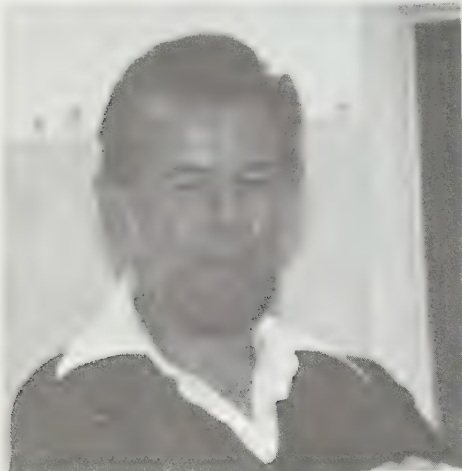
In 1978, Hawker-Siddeley installed a new separator that removed rind, shredded it and in addition, removed the waxy epidermis — two additional functions that were not accomplished by the old separator. The rind removal met the technical requirements for board manufacture. The tests have not yet met CIDA's requirements and will continue.

CIDA's program to encourage small-scale sugar and board factories in the smaller islands is being carried out in Barbados as well.

The agency also provided 14 CCE one-ton separators to demonstrate to the smaller islands the potential of feeding sugarcane to animals. **DD**

Brian Upton, a former journalist and editor, is an information officer with CIDA.

AN INTERVIEW WITH TED TILBY THE CANADIAN INVENTOR WHO MAY HELP REVOLUTIONIZE THE SUGARCANE INDUSTRY



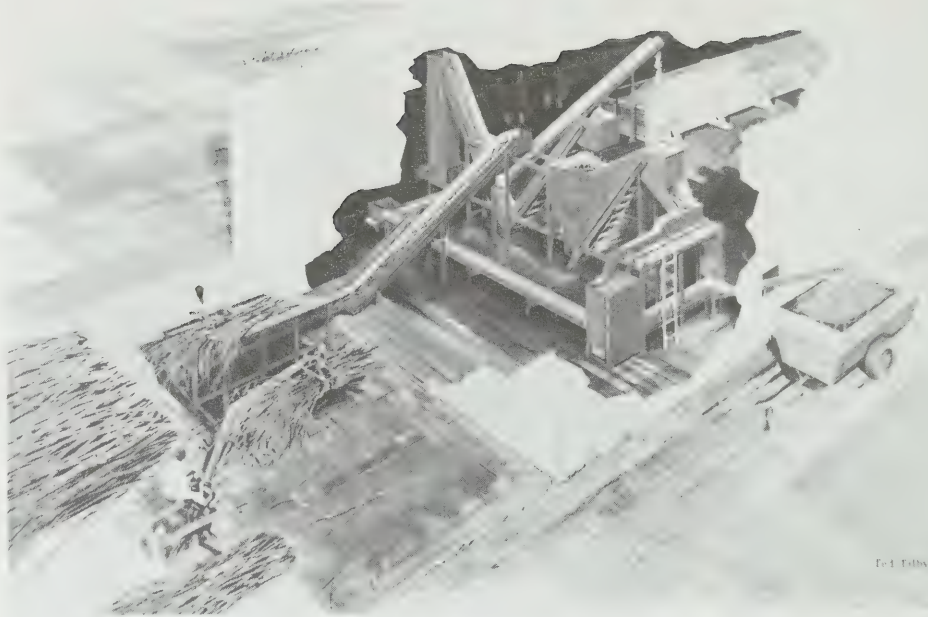
Ted Tilby, inventor of the Canadian sugarcane separation technology which may bring great benefits to some Third World countries, helped take apart and re-assemble his first machine when he was seven.

"It was a model T Ford which belonged to my older brother. I can remember every part, every nut and bolt even now," said the inventor, squinting into the past as he sipped coffee in a Windsor restaurant.

"It was during the Depression — 1931 — and we lived on the shore of Lake Wabamun which is about 40 miles west of Edmonton. My father was an engineer."

"Wabamun is Indian for mirror," said Mr. Tilby, hinting of his great love of the Canadian outdoors, of the people who belong there. The same quality shows up in his water colors, displayed regularly in five galleries in western Canada.

Mr. Tilby, about six feet tall with a crescent of beard and a lively sense of humor, lives in Victoria where he paints portraits as well as land and seascapes. He was in Windsor, Ontario, as consultant to Intercane Systems Inc., which held a demonstration in October of the Tilby separator and associated machinery which he designed.



"I am often asked that question," Mr. Tilby said in reference to his ingenuity with machines. "Machines are logical to me. They are beautiful, like works of art. My profession is architecture but I haven't practised it for many years."

He is satisfied that the best thing he has ever done was design the separator because of its simplicity and its potential for improving the lives of millions in the depressed economies of most countries producing sugarcane.

"Simple things make sense. They are real, they are part of life," he said.

How did a Canadian in Alberta come across the idea of creating a sugarcane separator?

In the early '60s, Mr. Tilby and Bob Miller of Edmonton were involved in a wood fibre-board processing venture. Mr. Tilby had designed some of the board pressing machinery and was on the lookout for more economical raw material.

"We were sitting in a restaurant in Edmonton having breakfast just like this," Mr. Tilby recalled.

"Myself, Bob Miller and Bob Thomson, the former head of the Social Credit Party were there. Thomson was going to the Caribbean and wanted us to go with him. I couldn't get away but I told Bob to go and paid for the trip as a business expense."

Mr. Miller visited some sugar mills in the Caribbean and was struck by the ponderous and wasteful way that cane was crushed by the old grinding mills.

He returned to Edmonton with a piece of sugarcane and an idea.

Mr. Tilby inserted a knitting needle easily into the centre pith of the cane where the sugar juice is concentrated. Next he split the cane with a sharp knife and removed the pith with a small spoon. The separator system, at that moment, began taking shape in his head.

Mr. Tilby completed his first small separator in his Edmonton workshop in 1968. Although many refinements have been made, the principle function of splitting the cane and separating sugar juice and pith from the tough, outer rind is still the basic function.

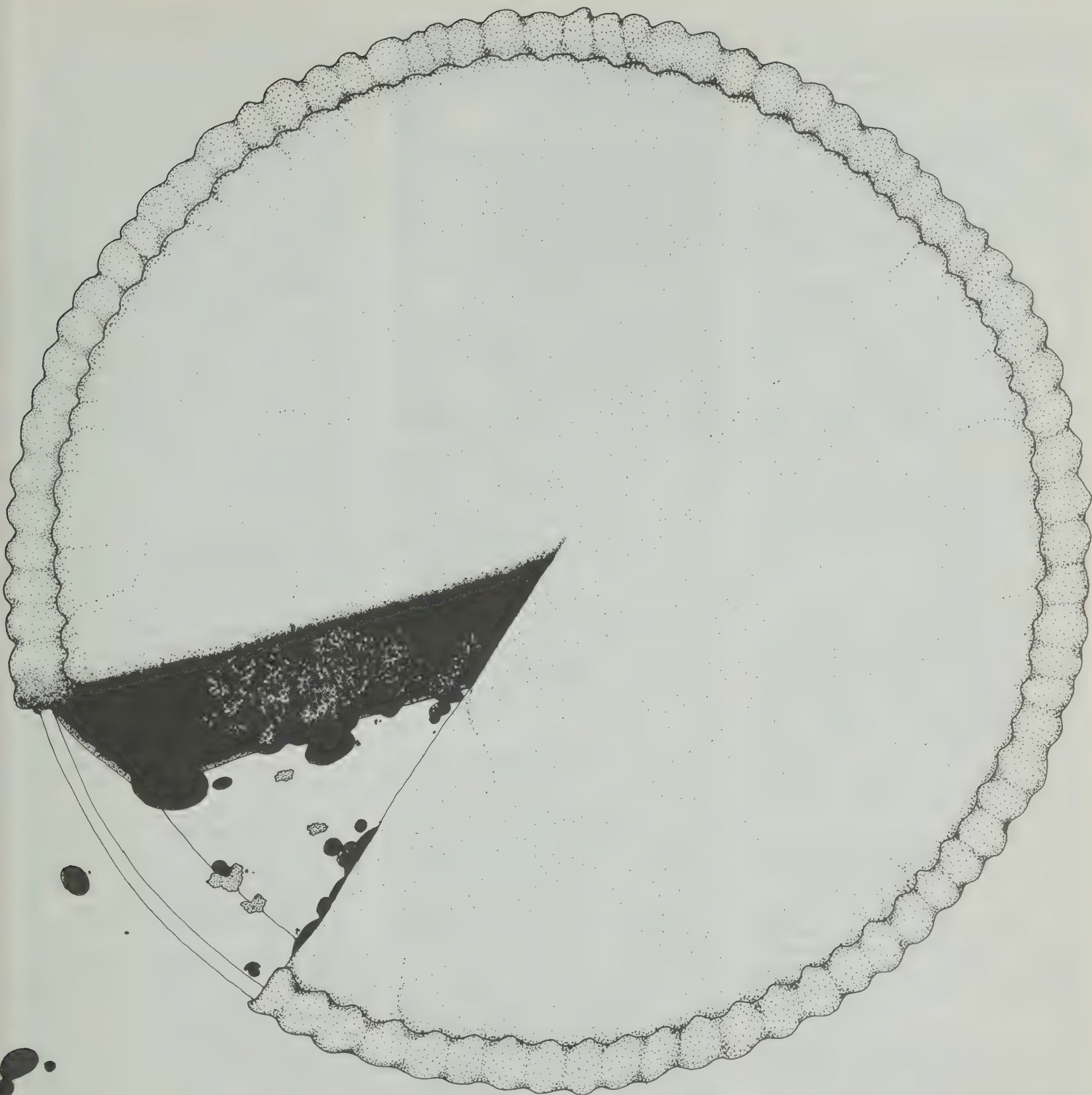
The inventor has the highest praise for the development of his separator and the auxiliary equipment carried out by engineers of Intercane and the parent company ARVID Machine and Tool Co. Ltd., who build precision transfer machinery in Windsor for the automotive industry.

He described the company's top engineer, Branco Vukelic, as "the best — a genius."

Mr. Tilby has designed four new machines that are complementary to the separation system and of importance to the downstream manufacture of by-products of sugar or sugar syrup production.

The new designs are being developed by ARVID.

Mr. Tilby, as a consultant, commutes regularly between the Windsor, Ontario, plant and his rambling home in Victoria, British Columbia. "In my profession, it doesn't matter where I live." DD



THE MEANING OF CIDA'S DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE CUTBACKS

by Bernard Wood

Finally, it is happening. The Canadian aid program is being cut, and cut seriously. For some in the development community, the first reaction was near-relief, somewhat akin to the strange sensation in 1940 when the "phoney war" was over and the serious fighting about to begin.

After two and a half decades of uneven commitment and chronic gaps between promises and performance, the tattered immunity of the foreign assistance budget has been lifted, together with that of

a number previously sacrosanct domestic programs. At the time of this writing, the government's August cutback announcements are still fresh, and their details and impact still being frantically negotiated. If we are to go by past experience, it is unlikely that the full picture will ever be made public, but will have to be pieced together from fragments of information.

At first glance, CIDA could have fared worse in the government's axe-swinging. The announced freeze of appropriations

at 1978-79 levels for the succeeding year—presented as a cut of \$133 million from intended spending—seems less drastic than might have been expected.

The CIDA budget is, after all, one of the more substantial in the federal government. In the place of traditionally passive and uninformed support, the program has undergone more than two years of active (albeit still uninformed) criticism, which has inevitably created doubts and increased its vulnerability.

With intense short-term economic and political pressures on the cabinet, and no determined domestic constituency to defend the economic and political importance of the aid program, its position became more precarious. Finally, when even some fairly well-informed observers of the program have concluded, from the “carryovers” or lapses in past CIDA annual budgets, that the extra funds are really not needed, the cabinet’s few strong advocates for development co-operation have simply been forced to give ground. Ironically, CIDA’s rising tempo of activity was just beginning to close these gaps.

Some observers have assumed that a one-year freeze at current levels could be absorbed without too much damage to the program itself, and that criticism of further backsliding from the GNP target for official aid could be weathered. After all, slippage in recent years has not met with any major protest. Indeed Members of the Official Opposition in Parliament and other critics have openly declared and the Economic Council of Canada has implied that they would support budget cuts.

The hurried pace of the government’s budget-cutting exercise was not conducive to a sober consideration of the longer-term moral, economic and political aspects of reducing development aid, nor of some of the important practical differences between cuts in CIDA’s budget and those of other departments and agencies.

On the same day that the CIDA budget cuts were announced, the World Bank released its first World Development Report, pointing out that, in spite of economic progress achieved, more than 800 million people in the developing world still subsist in a state of “absolute poverty,” “without access to the basic necessities of a productive life.”

Most alarming the World Bank is concerned that the situation may get worse rather than better. One of the most important external aids to the poor countries’ own development efforts is the opportunity to export to the industrialized world. However, because of the lingering recession and the rise of protectionist pressures, says the Bank’s report,

“the scope for the growth of exports from developing to industrialized countries is likely to be much more limited for the next decade than it was in the last two.”

When it is considered how much the industrialized countries have already restricted opportunities for export into their markets, (and Canada is far from an exception), according to a recent North-South Institute report the prospect for the poor to improve their situation through trade earnings must surely be massively improved.

Without underestimating any of the current economic hardship in the “rich” countries, the glaring inequity of the trade relationship stands out — exports of manufactured goods from industrialized countries to developing countries were worth about \$123 billion (U.S. funds) in 1975, while the reverse flow was only \$26 billion (U.S.) according to the Bank’s World Development Report.

Thus in the face of even more restrictions on trade opportunities, and stagnation on the key proposals of the UN’s agenda for a “new economic order,” the need (and the justification) for greatly increased “aid” flows is all the more compelling if we are to make any inroads against poverty in this century. Against this background, Canada, one of the few remaining countries at all committed to Lester B. Pearson’s “aid” target, announced its cutbacks.

For Canadians, the implications of this deteriorating situation are not only humanitarian ones. More and more analysts in the Western world are concluding that “inter-dependence” really does cut both ways, and that the economic advance of the poor countries may be one of the most significant hopes for helping the rich world out of its current unemployment and stagnation, without triggering another round of global inflation.

Claude Cheysson, the European Community’s development commissioner was one of the first to recognize and highlight the economic importance of the developing countries to the advanced economies. Willy Brandt, head of the Independent Commission on International Development Concerns and World Bank president Robert McNamara have also consistently argued that the economic future of the developed countries depends on growth in the poor countries.

Finally, on the political front, the frustration level of the Third World is again approaching ominous proportions. The process of talking has continued in global conferences, the North-South Dialogue, and specific negotiations, but

the actual policies of “Northern” countries have retrogressed almost without interruption.

A rising anger can be detected in numerous Third World statements. The opportunity for this frustration to become focused and powerful, as it did in 1974, will come in early 1979 with the Fifth UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) and in 1980, with the special review session of the UN General Assembly on Development.

As of mid-October, the allocation of the cutbacks among the different branches and programs of CIDA is still not known. One key point, according to reports from within the agency, is that major cuts or “planned lapses” of \$100 million are being made in 1978-79 activities as well as in those planned for 1979-80, the only reductions initially announced by the government. Big cutback targets, over which there will be much interdepartmental bloodshed, include the upcoming replenishment of the International Development Association (the “soft-loan window” of the World Bank) and the overall expenditure on food aid.

In CIDA’s other programs, cuts are generally substantial, and often reach down to the project level, and involve slowing down, or scaling down, of activity. In assessing such measures, the full extent of the peculiarities of international aid activities has to be understood. Committed projects cannot readily be cut without serious international embarrassment, so that the axe must generally fall on new projects.

The “lead-times” in getting projects underway, (and the “lag-times” in having their effects felt), are inevitably longer in complex international projects. In general it involves a pipeline of between two and four years, although these time-frames could probably be tightened up.

Because CIDA’s disbursements were beginning to catch up with its allocations, the agency must squeeze hard to cut spending this year and next, and at the same time it has to shelve or “stockpile” projects which could not be realized before the early or mid-1980s. If one adds to this the fact that many of the projects designed to meet the government’s 1975-80 strategy are only now taking shape, and that the overall quality of projects is almost certainly improving, then the real significance of the possible setback becomes apparent.

CIDA does have considerable scope for shifting its spending plans and ensuring that new activities of high priority can be started, but this kind of shuffling cannot continue for very long.

Clearly there is also a vicious circle to contend with. If the slowing of activities

results in substantial unspent balances at year end (or if "planned lapses" are treated as an inability to spend), some critics will use it as ammunition to justify yet more reductions.

The critical question concerns the duration of the freeze. If the freeze is a "deep freeze," CIDA will soon have to slow its planning activity as well as its commitments, and the momentum of co-operation with client governments will inevitably suffer. The agency will have to start cutting its capacity to mount programs, its staff and other resources, as well as programs themselves.

From all indications, the discipline of government austerity is going to be more seriously applied, over a longer period, than it has been in the past. If the official aid program, and its support of non-governmental efforts, are to continue to expand and improve, there will have to be a more realistic, informed and active constituency at work in the country.

On August 18, an editorial in the Toronto-based newspaper, *The Globe and Mail* called the announced government measures "a modest start" and stated: "Some cutbacks—the \$133 million, say, that will not go to the Canadian International Development Agency—occur in areas where many Canadians have long doubted the wisdom of the spending." The bald fact is that these doubts have become prevalent among Canadians deeply concerned with promoting development, as well as among the selfish and the indifferent.

While philosophical and practical questions about the nature of development and the role of development co-operation will not be fully resolved for decades to come, if ever, the development community is going to have to make up its mind, fast, or vital options could be foreclosed.

The voluntary agencies, whose own CIDA-assisted program was at first expected to survive the cuts without major damage, apparently now will have to take a full share of both present and future reductions. At the same time they are coping with this, they will have a critical role to play in the public domain in shaping the future of CIDA's bilateral and multilateral programs. **DD**



Bernard Wood is executive director of the North-South Institute, a non-profit independent research body based in Ottawa devoted to doing research and providing information on the needs and demands of developing countries and the strategies and policies open to Canadians in meeting those challenges.

WORLD BANK CONCERN OVER AID FREEZE

by Hyman Solomon

Canada's decision to freeze foreign aid spending at current levels is ringing all kinds of quiet but insistent alarm bells in high-level World Bank circles.

Behind the concern is the fear Ottawa, for political and economic reasons, might juggle next year's aid budget to favor Canada's more visible and substantially tied aid programs. If a greater than normal percentage of frozen aid ends up with the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), or other bilateral aid organizations, the World Bank's share will most likely shrink accordingly, it is feared.

Naturally, no aid agency looks happily at the prospect of a smaller contribution from a major contributor. But the concern extends beyond the dollar amounts themselves.

For various reasons, Canada is a highly influential member of IDA, the bank's major source of aid funds for the developing countries. Its influence is far out of proportion to the country's economic standing on the world's industrial nation ladder.

The reason is that Canada has built up its IDA role over the years, assuming leadership in the championing of easy credit and multilateral aid from the world's rich nations. As a result, it is currently the fifth largest contributor to IDA, accounting for about 6% of its budget — roughly twice as much as it might normally be asked to give on the basis of rank and ownership of bank capital (itself a rough reflection of each nation's comparative wealth in trade and economic terms).

The financial leadership in IDA has also been accompanied by an important intellectual and negotiating role in IDA policy and financial replenishment activities.

Canada's pre-eminence is highly regarded and recognized by the bank's leadership, including President Robert McNamara.

The annual report of the World Bank has taken a somewhat positive tone in reviewing the general economic status of developing nations during the past year. According to the report, growth in the developing world is proceeding faster than among industrial nations.

Developing nation exports, measured in dollar terms, jumped by about 14 per cent last year. Prices of several primary commodities jumped and sales of manufactured goods also increased. Sales of manufactured goods also increased.

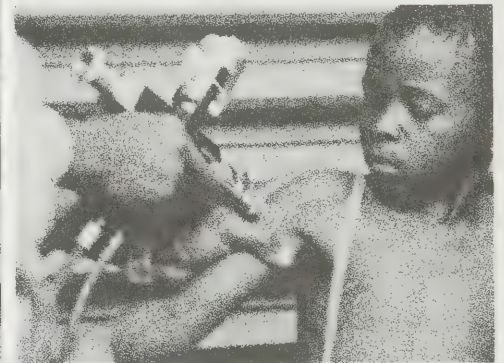
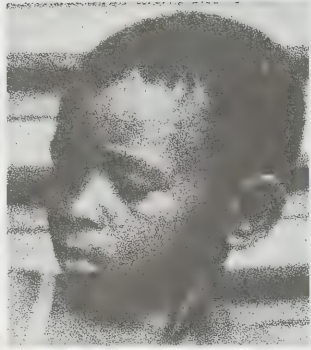
The result was a reduction in the aggregate current account deficit of the developing world to \$22 billion by the end of 1977 from \$37.3 billion in 1975. The aggregate trade deficit of developing nations was also lowered to \$12.7 billion last year, about half the average for 1974-75.

Although the bank report did not emphasize the point, the increasing trade prospects in the developing world are benefiting several industrial nations who are taking advantage of the new opportunities for export. **DD**

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PRIMARY HEALTH CARE IN THE THIRD WORLD: A REPORT ON THE ALMA ATA CONFERENCE

by Iain Guest



CLARKE

The week-long international conference on primary health care finished on September 12 in the massive Palace of Lenin, Alma Ata — to the mutual satisfaction of all the major participants.

For the Soviet Union, there were congratulations on a conference well handled. Despite the occasional lapse in organization, it had been remarkably free from the kind of political quarrels on the Middle East and liberation movements that mar UN meetings in New York and Geneva. Much of the credit for this went to the conference president, Soviet Health Minister Boris Petrovsky.

For the two UN sponsors WHO and UNICEF, the final document (in the form of 22 recommendations and the "Alma Ata Declaration") represented vindication for what had at times seemed to be a lonely and despairing cry.

They had both argued that Western urban-based medicine will not bring health to the impoverished rural areas of the Third World. What is needed is first a more appropriate type of health service related to the needs and resources of the Third World even if this means making use of semi-trained "paramedics;" and second, all-round development to prevent the disease that stems from bad water, poor sanitation and malnutrition.

Both positions were reflected in the declaration and recommendations.

For the 850 delegates, representing 138 governments, two liberation movements, 14 international agencies and 49 NGOs, there was relief at having completed their work in only seven days.

It would be churlish to deflate the euphoria, but the fact remains that primary health care in the aftermath of Alma Ata becomes a different, much more complex and altogether more difficult goal than before.

Will the governments who signed the declaration now implement it? This, and this alone, will determine whether history judges Alma Ata a success.

One delegate was not optimistic. "UN conferences have a way of seeming like the kiss of death," he observed dryly after the closing ceremony.

He recalled the 1974 conferences on population and food, the 1976 conference on women, the 1977 conferences on water and the New International Economic Order. . . the list of meetings is endless, but the list of achievements is decidedly not. Why, he wondered, should health be any different?

One reason for previous disappointment, he thought, was that the conferences had defined their subject in terms of broad development. As the UN mandate becomes accordingly more interwoven, a

reverse in any one area (such as trade) threatens everything else.

This is now possible with health. The first of the 11 clauses in the Alma Ata Declaration "strongly reaffirms that the attainment of the highest possible level of health is the most important world-wide goal, whose realisation requires the action of many other social and economic sectors in addition to the health sector."

By so doing, it raises the possibility that health has become too diffuse to be properly tackled in the specialised, humdrum and budget-strapped work of ministries.

The first follow-up debate to Alma Ata will, in fact, be along these lines. It will take place in cabinet meetings around the world, and its foremost champions will presumably be those delegates present at the conference.

Do they have the necessary political clout? The composition of delegations makes interesting reading. About 40 government ministers turned up. Almost all were from the developing countries, and many were from ministries like finance and planning which is important if other ministries are to make health a priority in the face of the other pressures on limited resources.

But the Alma Ata argument—that improving health improves a country's long term productivity—may not be enough to divert these resources from armaments.

In addition, when something is defined in terms of development it tends to fall into administrative limbo. This has happened in Egypt to family planning which is a separate function by dint of a supreme council (headed by President Sadat). But the council members are ministers with other responsibilities, and family planning itself is practised by health ministry personnel.

Will the same happen to health? Ashraf Wassouna, consultant to the Egyptian Ministry of Health and professor of planning, thinks not. But he does concede that co-ordination will be difficult.

The second major problem with the Alma Ata declaration is that it is vague. This is the fate of most UN conference resolutions, particularly when consensus is the main objective. But to judge from the first reactions of delegates it came near to saying all things to all people.

There was, from the start, little evidence that delegations felt under any pressure. Both before the conference and during the plenary sessions many delegations offered proof that they are already implementing primary health care schemes on a wide scale.

Senator Stanley Haidasz, leading Canada's delegation, opened the debate in plenary by citing Canada's Northern health service as an example of primary health care in a developed country: In the Northwest Territories, he said, there were only 57,000 people—mainly Inuit and Indian—living in a massive area. In order to provide them with adequate health, local health facilities had been provided for every 150 people, staffed by community health representatives (the equivalent of paramedics).

The host country, the Soviet Union, also had a chance to show off its system, under which each 2,000 people have access to a health station run by a paramedic obstetrician (called a feldsher).

In India, the Ministry of Health has already trained 42,000 family welfare workers, and an experiment is under way involving 3.3 million people. The basis of the scheme is an "aanganwaddy"—a woman who is selected from a village, and given three months' training. This enables them to give advice on nutrition and family hygiene as well as spot the serious cases that should be referred to doctors.

India also has a sizeable local drug industry, lessening the need to import costly drugs from Western companies. (A government committee found some years ago that more than 15,000 brands of drugs were available in India). In Sri Lanka, the age-old herbal skins of some of the country's 20,000 ayurvedic healers are being refined in government-administered institutions.

In Jamaica, "community participation" in health is being encouraged through "local health committees."

In Vietnam, the death rate of children has been brought down from 30 per cent to 3 per cent thanks to a concentrated program of immunization and clinical check-ups for mothers.

All this is encouraging because it shows what can be built on. But at Alma Ata it suggested complacency—and implied that the declaration was unlikely to create the political will needed to extend primary health care beyond a few inspired pilot projects.

Said C. Krishnamurti of the Indian Department of Health, in what may be a common reaction to the declaration, "I can foresee no problem for India in the recommendations. We are already implementing most of them."

The vagueness of the declaration and recommendations covers a multitude of different approaches to primary health care in the Third World—and also a good many reservations.

For instance, WHO and UNICEF are keen to encourage traditional healers, arguing that they represent an untapped course of skills and (more important) knowledge of the village populations.

Both agencies advocate training in basic Western techniques. This will help to ensure that village midwives do not cause dreadful injuries by using unsterilised sticks to perform crude abortions (as often happens). Throughout the Third World, village midwives also coat umbilical cords with cow-dung. This dries it out, so it drops off. But, explains Dr. H. Bannerman of WHO's department of traditional medicine, it also causes tetanus.

For Helder Martins, health minister of Mozambique, the arguments against traditional medicine are more than medical. He warns that it can too easily turn into mumbo jumbo and "obscurantism," and divert attention from training doctors and increasing real medical skills.

Others worry that traditional healers can be confused with untrained "quack" doctors, who also operate widely in villages but charge exorbitant prices for simple drugs.

How difficult will it be for governments of the Third World to change their health priorities? Jamaica has an extensive, primary health care system but it still spends a mere 5 per cent of its health budget on primary health care. Says Winston Davidson, Jamaican head of delegation and parliamentary under secretary at the ministry of health: "Hospitals are fantastically expensive in terms of maintenance and support. It's a legacy that we have to support."

Other obstacles to primary health care are even more fundamental. Edison Masisi, health minister of Botswana, points to his country's lack of infrastructure—roads, administration.

On a visit to a Soviet health centre the Liberian delegation finds that the expenditure per head (said to be approximately \$50 a year) is far greater than anything West Africa could afford.

In Bangladesh, village headmen and landowners represent a major obstacle to the spread of government services: villages are isolated from central government, in spite of the country's small area.

In several countries, health is a state responsibility—thus raising the prospect of battles for funds between the central and provincial governments. In India, supplementary feeding for the mothers and children in the aanganwaddy experiment costs 800,000 rupees. It is currently paid for by the central government, with help from abroad. But if the scheme extends nationwide, the costs

will have to be born by states, and some foresee difficulties.

And what of the West? In Alma Ata several delegations—the UK, Canada, Scandinavia—promised to direct more of their aid into primary health care projects. But it will take more than this to bring "health to all by the year 2000."

Much Western aid is tied—that is, given on condition that it is used to purchase Western goods and services. In March this year, Britain alone obtained orders worth \$95 million. This will do little to promote primary health care or mobilize community participation.

Western aid is, in addition, directed towards projects rather than programs. In 1976, Britain gave \$130 million on projects, but only \$115 million on programs. This was to increase efficiency and make sure the money went where it was supposed to. But again this policy will do nothing to create the kind of nationwide network that must be the first characteristic of primary health care.

Multilateral aid, too, is criticized by Winston Davidson of Jamaica, who explains that IMF aid usually comes on condition that governments cut back on social programs.

Then there are Western drugs. Switzerland's aid to the Third World amounted last year to approximately 183 million francs according to Swiss delegate Immita Cornaz. But three huge Swiss companies—Hoffman La Roche, Sandoz, and Ciba Geigy—sold drugs worth more than \$3 billion in 1975. Much of them went to the Third World even though WHO has long opposed the fact that costly Western drugs consume up to 50 per cent of limited health budgets.

Despite showing a greater willingness to talk to WHO, the companies have given no indication that they are prepared to relinquish lucrative markets. As Senator Kennedy said at a news conference in Alma Ata there is little that a country can do to pressurize them—they simply move elsewhere to produce.

Perhaps most important of all, the West is still not prepared to agree to a New International Economic Order (NIEO) despite evidence that it would increase the consumer power of the Third World and so regenerate Western economies. Many delegates in Alma Ata argued that a NIEO would create badly-needed resources for health—and the final declaration also reflects this.

Of all the participants, Alma Ata looks like it is having the most positive effect upon the UN and non-governmental organizations.

Senator Kennedy compared the challenge of primary health care to the chal-

lenge of eradicating smallpox and cited WHO's successful smallpox campaign. Many doubt that the two can be properly compared—smallpox involved a technical support role for WHO that has been uniform throughout the world, whereas primary health care varies from country to country.

But there is no doubt that the conference has given a boost to UNICEF and WHO. What might have seemed "interference" by both agencies a year ago will now be difficult to resist.

For the NGOs, Alma Ata was a novel and rewarding experience. In May 1978 they met in Halifax Nova Scotia and drafted their support for the concept of primary health care. Officially 49, but unofficially more, made it to Alma Ata, where they were afforded full participation in the committee and plenary debate.

Gerald Dafoe president of the World Federation of Public Health Associations, which sponsored the Halifax meeting, was the third speaker in the Alma Ata plenary. It was, he agreed, a singular honor—particularly as the Soviet Union often resents the independence of NGOs in UN meetings.

At the end of the conference, he was well satisfied with a reference to the NGOs in the Declaration's final paragraph. The only serious omission was in the recommendation concerning community participation. "That's where our main contribution lies," said Mr. Dafoe who is also executive-president of the Canadian Public Health Association.

For the NGOs, the conference offered one valuable insight. At a luncheon called to prepare a position paper, several NGO representatives from the Third World shrank from signing anything that could be construed as critical of their governments.

This raised the question of whether NGOs in socialist countries (which brook no opposition) have anything more than a technical role to play. In a similar vein, the conference as a whole posed very much the same question about capitalism: is it reconcilable with the broad social and economic change that is a prerequisite of primary health care?

It is a mere six months since WHO Director-General Halfdhan Mahler insisted at a WHO assembly in Geneva that "health and development go hand in hand with political action."

Mahler was assumed to be referring to grass roots community participation rather than any brand of ideology. But the remarkable social progress made by China and the USSR, and the clear determination of Third World left-wing governments, does surely raise the question of

whether laissez-faire capitalism can provide primary health care.

Heldar Martins, of Mozambique, says bluntly that it cannot—a view shared by socialists, but not, of course, by capitalists. The Alma Ata declaration ducks the issue by saying that primary health care can and must be adapted to different systems.

Delegates had a unique opportunity to judge for themselves during a weekend visit to Russian health centres.

The “first level of contact”—as primary health was broadly called—in the USSR is a sanitary station, run by four unpaid volunteers who receive a mere 40 hours training. This equips them to promote sanitation and health in local homes.

The second is the obstetrician feldsher, who presides over a small field station and is assisted by four other trained specialists. Together they handle preventive immunisation of infants, minor illnesses, and basic gynecology. Anything more serious is referred to a local hospital.

Despite the obvious preparations that have been taken for the visits, many delegates returned impressed. One pointed out that enormous strides have been taken since 1913: in the republic of Kazakstan, of which Alma Ata is the capital, hospital beds have increased from 1,800 to 185,000. Infant mortality has been reduced to 28 per thousand (compared with 17 in the U.S. and 139 in India).

But what is the cost? It was difficult to probe, given the restrictions, but some intriguing insights were offered: under the Soviet constitution, only those trained in state institutions can practise medicine; alcoholics can be forced to undergo a year's compulsory treatment; children are subjected to “electric therapy” to make them sleep better; psychiatric treatment is forced on “deviants;” husbands are not allowed to visit their wives in maternity clinics; women cannot have abortions until the “social circumstances” have been thoroughly investigated.

In short, there is little room for the individual—and this is clearly at odds with WHO's emphasis on self care, self reliance and even traditional medicine.

Adds Goran Sterky, professor of pediatrics at Stockholm echoing Ivan Illich, “The doctor's white coat is no longer a cure-all. Medicine costs too much, is overprofessionalised. People must take responsibility for their own health. Omnipresent health services undermine this. Health must not be confused with health services.” **DD**

Iain Guest is a British journalist specializing in international development issues who is now based in Geneva.

CANADA'S STATEMENT ON PRIMARY HEALTH AT ALMA ATA

The Canadian delegation to Alma Ata took an active role in all three sub-committees: primary health care and development, operational aspects of primary health care and national strategy and international support for primary health care.

Canada is unique among the non-socialist countries in having not only universal, government-financed health coverage but also an operational primary health care system in the northern region.

The Canadian presentation emphasized both Canada's national and international commitment to primary health care and highlighted the following points:

Canada has two types of health systems which service the Canadian population:

- the northern system has a primary health care system in the WHO/UNICEF context. It services a vast territory with harsh climatic conditions and small, scattered populations. The territory also has difficult transportation and communication problems.

- a community health worker, paid and chosen by the community is the first point of contact; he/she is backed up by a nurse-practitioner (who functions as a doctor) and a dental therapist who are in turn backed up by teams of visiting specialists and an integrated network of hospitals which stretches back into the southern system;

- increasing emphasis is being placed on the integration of the health system with other sectors—water supply/sanitation, education and food production/presentation.

- In the populated, industrialized southern region, the first point of contact is the doctor and the hospital;

- a wide range of free public health services are accessible to all citizens;

- additional free services are provided for those most in need: the unemployed, the aged and the handicapped;

- the system is highly decentralized—each of the 10 provinces have complete jurisdiction over all health matters.

Current trends in both systems are towards a decrease in hospital usage and costs, promotion of the prevention-oriented “life styles” approach and occupational health programs and the strengthening of environmental controls.

The Canadian presentation stressed the non-adaptability of the Southern system to developing countries but emphasized the close parallels in Canada's Northern system, in both policy and practice, to the problems which confront developing countries in providing health services.

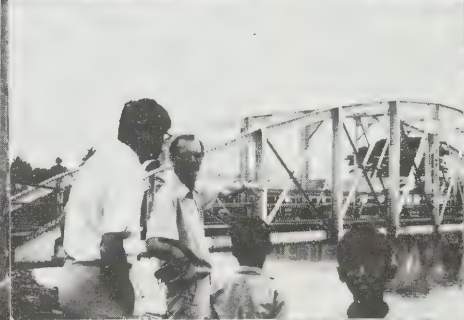
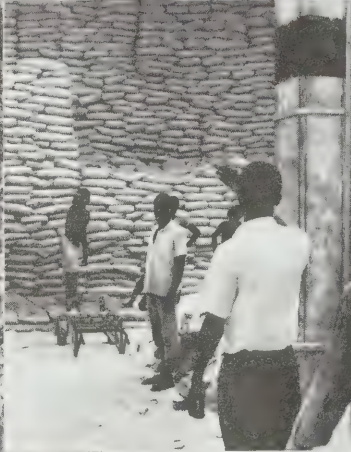
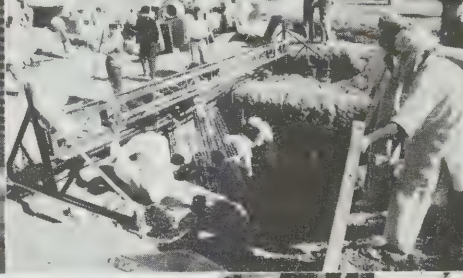
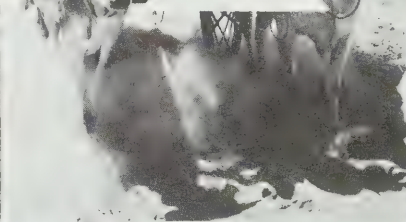
In speaking to the issue of international commitment and support of primary health care, Canada emphasized its continuing commitment to public health as one of “the most crucial aspects or problems of development.” Because of the strong emphasis at the conference by the developing countries on national determination of priorities in health, and indeed in all sectors of development co-operation, and to counter-balance the socialist countries' position, Canada reiterated the health sector policy guidelines which state that CIDA should not assist in health policy formulation.

Canada underlined the resulting dilemma which Canada faces in assisting projects in the health sector when the onus lies with the developing countries to change their priorities. The Canadian delegation noted that as a consequence of the foregoing, the percentage of CIDA's “pure health” projects is actually declining in favor of a multisectoral approach. This, Canada suggested, was a positive trend in the context of discussions on primary health care.

Finally, Canada underlined the role which the voluntary non-governmental organizations (NGOs) have played both nationally and internationally in the development of health services. Canada affirmed support for the interlocking role which governments, multilateral agencies and NGOs must play if the global goal of “health for all by the year 2000” is to be achieved.

The Canadian statements were met with considerable interest by other delegations. Many commented on the fact that two widely different health systems could be developed in one country to suit different needs. Canada received strong support for its policy statement on not intervening in health planning. The international NGOs were particularly gratified by Canada's strong support of their activities.

The Canadian delegation was composed of representatives from the departments of Health and Welfare, Indian and Northern Affairs, External Affairs, CIDA, a Province (New Brunswick) and an NGO (CUSO). **DD**



International Development



Développement international





REFLECTIONS ON 10 YEARS OF CANADIAN ASSISTANCE TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

by Allan Thornley

The Canadian International Development Agency is now 10 years old. During the past decade it has spent more than \$6 billion of Canadian taxpayers' money to carry out or help finance thousands of development projects in most of the developing countries. Expenditures on these activities have prompted reactions ranging from admiration to anger, depending on who you talk to.

Has the effort been worth making? Has the money been invested wisely in building a better world, as government officials often argue, or squandered foolishly on harebrained schemes, as some CIDA critics claim?

There is no simple answer. Certainly, the extreme complexity of world development and the large scope of Canada's participation make it difficult for any one person to understand the full effect of particular CIDA projects and programs, much less to pass blanket judgment on the whole enterprise of international development co-operation.

But now is perhaps a good time — 10 years after the Canadian government created an agency to promote development overseas, five years after the era of easy economic growth ended for the rich countries, and immediately following a

freeze on Canada's aid plans — to look again at where we have been and what we have done.

Canada's efforts to help the Third World are an important chapter in our recent history. A glance back may allow us to see the first 10 years of CIDA in truer perspective, and might even yield some insight into present policies and future possibilities.

Out of every 200 people in the world, 199 are not Canadian. Concern about these other humans who live beyond our borders is as old as Canada: churches and various voluntary groups have been active overseas — carrying out, for example, educational and medical work in the Caribbean, Africa and India — for more than a century.

Canada became involved officially after the Second World War, when the government contributed to recovery efforts through the specialized agencies of the United Nations.

Canadian participation started to take on the form now recognized as development co-operation in 1950, when Canada plunged into what seemed then an unprecedented, idealistic, and to some observers irresponsible experiment — first, by attending the Colombo conference of Commonwealth leaders to discuss co-operation with the former colonies of the subcontinent, then by agreeing to provide food and other assistance to help the newly-independent nations of India, Pakistan and Ceylon (now Sri Lanka) put down the economic and social roots needed if they were to survive.

During the 1950s Canada's aid budget grew from \$10 million a year to \$82 million, and programs were launched in other Asian countries that joined the Colombo Plan. Canadian aid funds were also channelled to new Commonwealth members in the Caribbean and Africa.

Funding was provided through the Department of External Affairs, while programs were administered and co-ordinated through various interdepartmental committees during the gradual build-up of a more comprehensive Canadian effort.

Responsibility for Colombo Plan matters and Commonwealth scholarships was eventually centralized in 1958 in the Economic and Technical Assistance Bureau (ETAB) of the Department of Trade and Commerce.

To handle the expanded program, a consolidated External Aid Office (EAO) was created in 1960 when ETAB's duties were transferred to External Affairs. Under Director-General Herbert Moran, EAO developed over the next few years a more adequate structure for planning and administration, and a more diversified program that went beyond traditional forms of aid. Canadian assistance was extended to Francophone Africa and then, through the Inter-American Development Bank, finally to Latin America. By 1967 the EAO budget had reached a record \$297 million.

On September 2, 1968, CIDA was created as a government agency reporting to Parliament through the Secretary of State for External Affairs. This change of name and status served several purposes. It expressed the widespread feeling in Canada — as shown by Miles For Millions marches and the strong growth of voluntary agencies — that assistance to Third World people should be a major national endeavor. It reflected the high priority given by the government to international co-operation as a main theme in our foreign policy. It also changed the emphasis from aid to development.

Led by its first president, Maurice Strong, CIDA continued to build the elements of a broad and varied develop-

ment program. The International Development Research Centre took shape, substantial projects were launched in Francophone Africa, and an innovative system of matching contributions was set up to help Canadian voluntary agencies expand the scope of their grass-roots development work overseas.

With capacities to match those of the development agencies of other donor countries, CIDA served as evidence of Canada's intention to play a creative and responsible role in world affairs. Canadian credibility was reinforced by the continuing work of former prime minister Lester Pearson, resulting in the 1969 report, "Partners in Development," and by the serious attention given to international development in the comprehensive 1970 review of Canada's foreign policy.

An about-face in development thinking was, however, taking place in rich and poor countries alike by the end of the 1960s. Aid efforts had not yielded the expected results, and two decades of experience had discredited a long series of development theories — first, the naive assumption that a few years of food aid and technical assistance would allow the "emerging" countries to repeat Europe's postwar revival; then the revised credo that the Third World could be transformed in the medium term by injections of Western education, technology, and industry; later, a growing concentration on promoting GNP growth and the "green revolution" in agriculture, without too much attention to where the benefits went.

Belatedly, the lesson was drawn from all this experience: that development is not a simple economic process but a complex matter of helping people help themselves, involving the whole array of

social relationships and cultural subtleties that make up the texture of real life.

When Paul Gérin-Lajoie became president of CIDA in 1970 he set two main goals: to give priority to the social aspects of development in order to ensure that the benefits of development would reach the people in greatest need; and to speed up the pace of Canada's efforts, because expenditures had fallen behind authorizations. The backlog represented aid approved by Parliament but effectively denied to the intended recipients (the main criticism of CIDA heard in the early 1970s).

Disbursements soon were growing rapidly at a pace of about 20 per cent a year and had nearly tripled (to \$963 million) by 1976-77. CIDA launched a growing number of projects in such difficult but socially relevant areas as public health, water supply, and integrated rural development.

The proportion of Canada's bilateral aid going to the UN-designated group of least developed countries rose from 8 to 18 per cent in the first half of the 1970s and had reached 30 per cent by 1977-78. Twenty-five countries were designated "least-developed" in 1972. By 1976 there were 29 countries in this category.

Agriculture, as a sector of the bilateral program, jumped from 6 per cent in 1973-74 to 14 per cent two years later, and is expected to be the most important field of activity in the 1977-82 period, accounting for about a third of all bilateral funds.

Meanwhile, the non-governmental organizations program, perhaps the most effective channel for individual-scale assistance that reaches the neediest where they live, grew from \$8.5 million in 1970-71 to \$37 million in 1976-77.

Canada's new policy — a focus on aid to the poorest countries and peoples, priority attention to the most crucial world problems, and emphasis on building self-reliance in the Third World — was summed up and published in the "Strategy for International Development Cooperation, 1975-1980."

All this growth and innovation produced, according to many international observers, a substantial, well-balanced, progressive program of development cooperation. By the middle of the decade CIDA and the Canadian aid effort were often compared quite favorably with the aid agencies and programs of other donors. In 1976, for example, the outspoken British magazine *The New Internationalist*, in an overview of eight aid programs, rated Canada and China as joint runners-up to Sweden.

More and more often, on issues touching on North/South relations, Canada found itself part of a group of like-minded nations such as the Scandinavian countries and the Netherlands.

Less happy, however, were some other results as Canada's aid budget approached the billion-dollar mark. CIDA suffered from certain organizational growing pains, detailed in the Auditor-General's reports, and after a long period of virtual immunity from attack the aid agency emerged as a tempting target for criticism, especially when viewed against the backdrop of the mid-1970s economic slowdown.

Michel Dupuy became CIDA's third president in March 1977, with a particular mandate from the prime minister "to ensure that Canadian aid reaches those who need it most, to emphasize sound financial management," and to respond

Canada and the Third World

Since Confederation

Churches and voluntary groups work to improve education and medical care in Caribbean, Africa, India and elsewhere.

Since 1945

Canada contributes to UN specialized agencies

1950

First Colombo Plan Conference

1951

Canada provides \$10 million food aid to India

1951-60

Parliament authorizes \$420 million for external assistance during the decade, five-sixths of it for Colombo Plan countries

1958

ETAB (Economic and Technical Assist-

ance Bureau, Dept. of Trade and Commerce) replaces various committees as central aid bureau

First Canadian assistance to Caribbean
1959

First Canadian assistance to Commonwealth Africa
1960

External Aid Office (EAO), under External Affairs, replaces ETAB. Herbert Moran appointed Director-General
1961

First Canadian assistance to Francophone Africa
1964

First Canadian assistance to Latin America (through Inter-American Development Bank)
1966

Maurice Strong heads EAO
1968

Canadian International Development

Agency (CIDA) replaces EAO
1969

Pearson Commission report *Partners in Development* published
1970

Government publishes Foreign Policy Review

Paul Gérin-Lajoie heads CIDA
1975

Government publishes *Strategy for International Development Cooperation 1975-1980*
1976

CIDA begins corporate review of its organization
1977

Michel Dupuy heads CIDA

Canada cancels \$232 million in development loan debts of 12 least-developed countries

to public "concerns expressed about Canadian development assistance."

Since then, major managerial changes have been made, with a corporate review originally launched in 1976 guiding the overhaul of CIDA. Key changes include the creation of the Resources Branch, to integrate advisory and service functions; the Comptroller's Branch, to strengthen the control of cash-flow; and the Food Aid Coordination and Evaluation Centre, to ensure coherence in this part of the aid program. To be certain that CIDA learns fully the lessons offered by its continuing experience, project evaluation is being stepped up — not only through the analysis of completed work, but by building evaluation into the normal lifecycle of a project.

At its 10 year mark, CIDA is busy pursuing Canada's strategy for 1975-80 and planning for the decade ahead. Aid disbursements for 1977-78, including the special debt forgiveness for a dozen least-developed countries pledged at last year's North/South conference reached a record \$1.28 billion — a level unlikely to be matched again in the near future because of expenditure cutbacks announced by the government in August, which cancel the intended increase of \$133 million in funds for 1979-80.

CIDA's most pressing new challenge, at the moment, is thus a complex juggling act, as it tries to maintain the momentum and integrity of Canadian development assistance, to meet existing commitments to the greatest possible extent, and to minimize overseas and domestic disruptions, while working with diminished resources.

Whether Canada's aid program can get back in stride and move again toward the internationally accepted aid goal (.7 per cent of GNP), a target hit so far only by Sweden, the Netherlands, Norway and four OPEC countries depends partly on economic recovery in Canada. Perhaps even more, it will depend on what Canadians think about the kind of job being done by their aid agency, and about just what kind of role Canada should have in relation to the Third World.

Opinion polls show that a broad base of support still exists among the public for the general principle of helping the world's poorer countries. They also show, however, a hardening of attitude toward increases in funding, and a feeling that development assistance has often been mishandled.

One reason for this shift of opinion is a three-year barrage of attacks by newspaper, radio and TV commentators. Toronto tabloids and Vancouver hotliners have told Canadians that CIDA has wasted their money sending cattle for Idi

Amin's troops to barbecue, shipping automatic dishwashers into the Sahara, giving ham-slicers to Moslem countries.

Repetition and extravagant language have helped the allegations stick in public memory far better than the detailed explanations given by CIDA, even though these charges and many others made since 1975 are either false or grotesquely distorted.

The cattle, for example, were part of a dairy development plan to improve local supplies of milk; the project was planned and carried out in co-operation with the previous government, before Idi Amin came to power; and there seems to be no evidence that the cattle were later slaughtered.

The dishwasher and the food slicer (for cutting meat, vegetables and bread, but obviously not ham) were part of the cafeteria equipment for a large, university-level technical school in Senegal. They serve a useful purpose in a part of the world where contact and water-borne diseases are common, by cutting down on handling and by allowing the use of hotter water and stronger detergents.

Fact has trouble catching up with fiction when few of the commentators or their audience ever see the physical reality of CIDA's work because it is in the Third World. Bad projects tend to make "news" while good projects do not. In addition, most of the public is preoccupied by events closer to home and pays only marginal attention to their country's dealings with the Third World.

Some CIDA projects have, certainly, gone wrong in various ways. A shipment of seed potatoes was unusable when it arrived in Haiti due to shipping delays; a highway in West Africa did go over budget (mainly because oil prices quadrupled immediately after the project was launched); and the satellite communication receiving station built in Bangladesh is a project that CIDA would today be unlikely to consider appropriate. Even in these cases, however, the full picture looks somewhat different.

Action has been launched to recover the cost of the potatoes from the shipper. The highway in Niger, criticized (as was the building of Canada's cross-country rail line) because its cost exceeds immediate economic benefits, is important to the nation's future and helped to eliminate the need for costly food airlifts when famine again threatened the Sahel countries recently. The satellite receiving station, though it lost a major part of its rationale when war severed the two halves of Pakistan, still provides a useful service by giving the new nation of Bangladesh modern communication links with the outside world.

Meanwhile, beyond superficial attacks on problem projects — and sometimes on excellent projects, in which Canadians should feel entitled to take pride — CIDA's more serious critics make fewer headlines but ask more significant questions. Should more aid be channeled through non-governmental organizations — or are there limits to their capacities? Should Canada concentrate entirely on aid to the poorest people — or do Third World countries also need big infrastructure projects (dams, roads, power grids) to become self-reliant?

If there is to be sufficient public support to sustain a credible Canadian effort at helping meet the massive needs of the Third World's people, Canadians will have to keep a few facts in mind:

- despite the headlines, Canadian aid dollars are doing much work that no rational or humane person could oppose (helping the World Health Organization eradicate smallpox, for example, or bringing clean water, basic health care and more food to disease-ridden villages);
- no matter how adequate the planning, some projects will go wrong, because they must be carried out against forbidding difficulties (differences of language, climate, culture, laws and customs, as well as the infinite number of problems encountered in the poorest countries precisely because they are poor);
- results and even goals may seldom be exactly what Canada would want, because we are working in someone else's country, helping them achieve their idea of development (it may be particularly difficult, for example, to ensure that benefits reach the poorest people, since this is rarely achieved even in the industrialized countries);
- the problems are so huge that there will be no quick and easy success, but the issue — building a decent, survivable world — is so serious that no-one can evade it.

Perhaps — if the public is firm in its century-old commitment to aiding the innocent victims of poverty, and if it helps CIDA ask the right questions and find good answers in such policy areas as distribution of benefits, appropriate technology, the role of women and of children, the impact of humans on the global environment — we may yet find that CIDA's cutback era will prove to be only a breathing-space when it becomes possible to take a fresh look at many qualitative problems of international development that remain not fully resolved. We may yet discover that Canada's co-operation with the people of the Third World is only approaching its best years.

DD

Allan Thornley has been an information officer at CIDA since 1969. He is now an information officer specializing in Asia.



A bridge across the southern world

The technical expertise of one developing country can often be more appropriate to other developing countries than technology imported from the rich world. And technical cooperation among developing countries (TCDC) is potentially a two-way process of teaching and learning among equal partners based on mutual problems rather than a one-way flow based on the concept that all progress must come from the Northern industrialised world.

But TCDC is not only an abstract concept. It is already happening as the examples on these pages show. One of the main purposes of the World Conference on TCDC to be held in Buenos Aires later this year is to systematically extend the building of links across the Southern world.

1 Alacode in Latin America, the Press Foundation of Asia in Manila, the Arab Centre in Cairo, the Press Institute of India in Delhi, and two wire services—Inter-Press in Rome and Tanjug in Belgrade are now working individually and together to form new communications networks within and across the Southern world. The New Internationalist is privileged to be co-operating with all of these organisations. "What we must work towards" says IPS Director Roberto Savio "is a New International Information Order."

2 Late last year, members of GEPLACEA, a 22-country association of Latin American and Caribbean sugar exporters, completed a one month joint training programme which took them to the New York coffee and sugar exchange and sugar brokerage houses as well as to Mexico to study the workings of the world sugar market. The course was designed to help these 22 countries, who export 60% of all the sugar traded in the world, to improve production and marketing methods.

3 Guyana, Jamaica and Trinidad are co-operating to make sure that a valuable common resource bauxite—returns maximum benefits to the exporting countries.

4 Five countries—Columbia, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras and Panama—have formed a Union of Banana Exporting Countries (UPEB) and a common marketing enterprise—COMUNBANA. The five countries are now working together for fairer prices, pooling knowledge for better production methods, and jointly exploring new markets. "We would like the participation of other exporting countries in Asia, Africa and the Caribbean" says UPEB Executive Director Vellejo Mejia.

5 Colombia and Venezuela have set up a Comision Mixta to jointly exploit the carbon and iron-ore reserves of both countries.

6 Bolivia, Ecuador and Peru have made agreements for the joint processing of their copper.

7 A Bolivian technician is working in Peru to train Latin Americans from the Andean Countries in restoring and preserving paintings and sculptures.

8 Peru, Chile, and Bolivia are jointly tackling the problem of desert spread

9 The Latin American Steel Congress has been in operation for 16 years, helping the republics of the continent to build and operate steel plants. "It has been immensely valuable" reports our Argentinian correspondent "in improving the choice of technology in Latin America and in building new steel plants and upgrading established ones." Seven out of the seventeen Latin American engineers who gave papers at the last ICAFC Congress in Buenos Aires were trained in Latin American countries other than their own

10 The "Las Gaviotas" centre in Colombia is going a long way to meeting the education, health and transport needs of the farmers on Colombia's tropical plains. In five years of work, the centre has developed and field tested inexpensive water-rams, solar heaters, yuca grinders, hydraulic turbines, windmills and manual pumps all of which save farmers weeks of work and provide both pure water and electric power. The UN Development Programme has supported study and consultancy visits by "Las Gaviotas" staff to other developing countries in Asia and Africa, and in neighbouring Ecuador.

11 The Latin American Organisation for Energy (OCADE) is arranging to exchange experts on energy questions and training Latin American nationals in negotiations with multinational corporations.

12 The Pan American Zoonoses Centre in Argentina is running a programme of research and training to combat over 150 diseases that have long afflicted livestock herds in the region. Technical facilities are being provided by ten Latin American nations; all the training staff are Latin American nationals; and after 1978 all the costs met will be met by Latin American countries.

13 The joint action of the OPEC countries in taking control of their own natural resources and negotiating increases in oil revenues is the most spectacular example of TCDC to date.

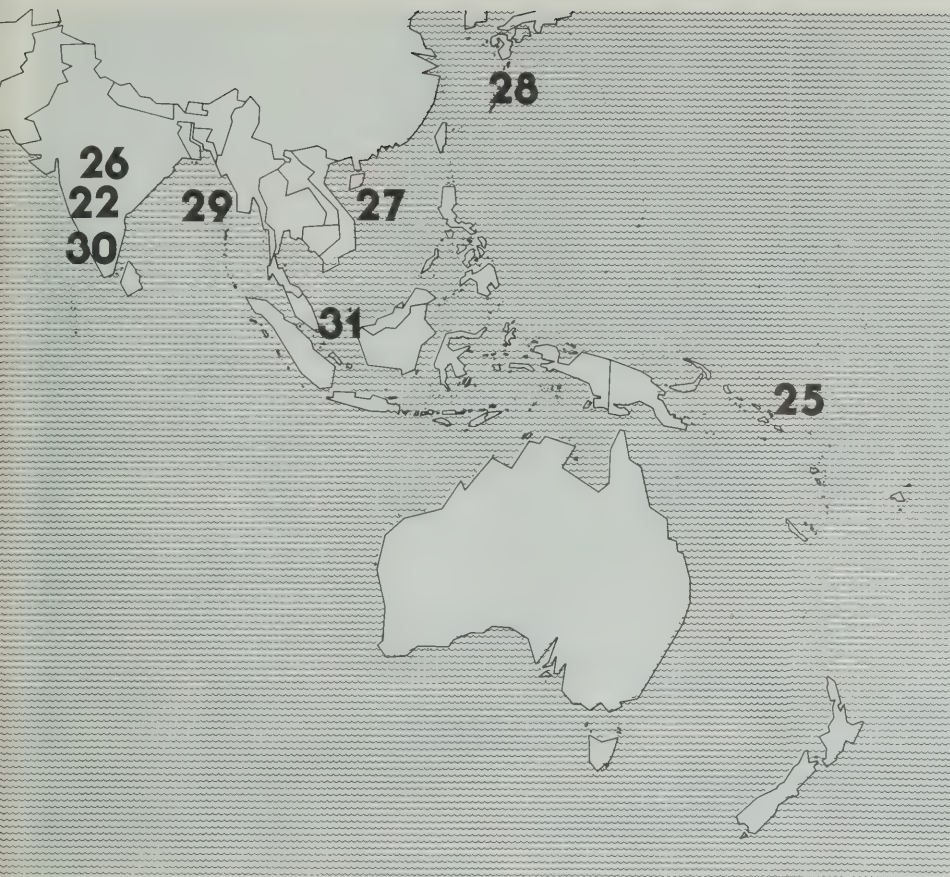
14 The West African Rice Development Association, head-quartered in Liberia, unites 13 African countries in common research, demonstration, training and data processing to increase rice production.

15 A Malayan education specialist is working in villages of Upper Volta to train girls in literary, nutrition and hygiene.

16 Niger, Chad, Cameroon and Nigeria have formed The Lake Chad Basin Commission to co-operate in getting maximum development benefit from the Waters of Lake Chad.

17 Thirteen West African countries have organised the Regional Centre of Labour Administration, head-quartered in Yaounde, for promoting health and safety at work and co-operating on government social security schemes and labour exchanges.

18 Specialists in tropical medicine from Nigeria, Brazil and Vietnam are working at the University Centre for Health Sciences in Yaounde, Cameroon, to help work out an Africa-oriented health-care training programme. Students from different African countries practice in villages for 8 months before graduation. The programme was set up, with support from the U.N. Development Programme and the World Health Organisation because it had become clear that African health workers, who had traditionally been trained abroad, were not receiving the kind of training which enabled them to meet the most pressing local needs.



19 In North Yemen, a Nepalese agronomist, a Sudanese livestock specialist, an Egyptian diesel mechanic and a Nepalese surveyor are all using their experience of the needs of their own developing countries to cooperate with Yemeni colleagues in improving agricultural production, controlling cattle disease, installing pump-wells and water tanks and building roads. All are members of the U.N. Volunteer Programme and, according to the Yemeni government, they are among the most effective consultants the country has ever had.

20 At the Arab Institute for Economics and Social Planning in Kuwait, people from the countries of the Middle East are being trained in trade negotiations.

21 An Egyptian Rural Sociologist is working with Moroccan farmers to improve agricultural techniques and living conditions.

22 The Central Institute of Fisheries Education near Bombay, which is developing new techniques to improve the productivity of the fishing industry, has attracted participants from 20 developing countries. Says the Centre's Director "machines produced in developed countries are useful, but they have to be modified to suit local needs".

23 A Sri Lankan expert is now helping Liberia and Sierra Leone to harmonise trade and tariff agreements on timber and forestry products.

24 At a laboratory in Ndola, Zambia, a programme for Research and Training on Tropical Diseases is working on low-cost and appropriate methods of attacking diseases which plague large parts of Asia and Latin America as well as Africa.

Thirty cotton-producing countries forming Cotton Development International to improve production techniques and co-operate in training, research and marketing. Over 125 million people in the Third World earn their living mainly from producing cotton and another 45 million depend on related industries.

25 12 nations of the Pacific Basin are co-operating in the PEACESAT Project which uses a satellite and 16 small ground terminals to provide communications for health, education and community development across an area that covers almost one-third of the globe. The small ground terminals are portable and cost around \$4000. Controlled entirely by the users the system links educational institutions in the 12 participating countries. (see inset map)

26 Every year India is offering places in its medical colleges to students from neighbouring countries. Special places are reserved for students from countries which have no medical schools of their own—like Nepal, Bhutan and the Maldives—and the Government of India bears the full cost.

27 Seven nations of Asia have formed the Asian Clearing Union to work towards closer co-operation on monetary and banking systems.

28 The International Rice Research Institute in the Philippines has developed many low-cost agricultural technologies—like fertiliser injectors, seed planters or diaphragm pumps—which are now being introduced into several Asian countries. Eight Asian nations have now formed a regional network to share techniques and information about small-farm mechanisation and they now communicate directly with each other with no central institute.

29 India, Nepal, Thailand and Bangladesh have established "Jute International" to co-operate in research, development, and marketing.

30 Indian scientists are using industrialised-world irradiation techniques to improve crop-yields and sterilise medical equipment. But rather than just importing the necessary nuclear equipment, which would have been very expensive and dependent on further imports of spare parts, Indian scientists have adapted the technology so that it is smaller and more portable and can be manufactured in India. The adaptation was successful—the size of ground-nut harvests has been increased and the sterilisation of bandages and other health equipment has been of great value to village health programmes. India has now signed agreements with Iran and Argentina to help them accomplish similar results by providing consultants and materials at reduced cost to adapt irradiation units to the needs of other developing countries.

31 Five Asian developing countries—Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand—have set up the Regional Centre for Educational Innovation and Technology (INNTECH) which has launched a revolutionary new approach to meeting educational needs in the region. Called Project IMPACT (Instructional Management by Parents, Community and Teachers) the programme is being piloted in two 'schools' in Indonesia and the Philippines and aims to develop a new and affordable system of primary education by involving the children, the family and the community in the task of education.

TCDC:

CROSS-FERTILIZATION OF THE SOUTH

by Jeff Endrst

The UN Conference on Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries (TCDC) started on a distinct note of apprehension and ended with claims that its agreed Plan of Action was a miracle.

At the very minimum, the Buenos Aires two-week September debate involving 138 countries and several dozen specialized agencies marked the beginning of a great dialogue among the continents of the South. It provided a new impulse for solidarity and interdependence in the Third World. It also represented a non-confrontational challenge to the industrialized countries of both West and East.

TCDC is now seen as a new dimension in the continuing effort to arrive at a new world economic order. It is self-help among the developing countries. But it is also characterized as "additionality" to existing development aid commitments made by the industrially advanced and financially more fortunate.

TCDC was rediscovered as a tool with which to forge new links and build new bridges across the South. It is a novel approach with an old tradition. Past ages were marked by thriving co-operation links between Babylonians and Pharaonic, Central and South American, Chinese and neighboring civilizations. Scientific and cultural exchanges have existed for centuries between India through Islamic civilization, across Africa and over the Mediterranean to Europe. The Buenos Aires conference was an attempt to capitalize on past links, institutionalize and intensify them.

The conference took place against a backdrop of the panorama of a world in the throes of economic and social upheaval, of growing terrorism and a widening gap between the "haves" and the "have-nots." It was discouraging to admit, as Egypt did, that, realistically, the existing gap cannot be closed by the end of this century. But it was chillingly ominous to be reminded that by the year 2,000 the developing countries' population will constitute 80 per cent of the world's total.

The stark implication facing the conference was that the rich minority could af-

ford to make the impoverished majority dependent on its charity only at the cost of its own well-being, security and perhaps world peace.

There were also expressions of sympathy and understanding by some of the developing nations for difficulties now plaguing the industrialized West, such as inflation and growing unemployment. This helped reinforce the notion that inter-dependence is here to stay and will grow stronger.

It was noted that collectively, the developing countries, despite all adversities, have recently been registering greater economic growth than their "rich" counterparts in the northern hemisphere. This led to optimistic speculation that if TCDC were really to succeed as planned, the developing South could become the "economic engine" pulling the North with it on the road to a North-South equilibrium.

As if the conference sensed these opportunities, the TCDC debate was relatively short on North-South, East-West, Arab-Israeli or Sino-Soviet confrontations.

The tone was set by UN Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim who came to Buenos Aires to open the conference. He discounted apprehensions that a successful TCDC could add to the existing divisions in the world's economy.

Mr. Waldheim reminded the "have-nots" that the industrialized East and West has accumulated much of its economic and technological strength through processes clearly analogous to TCDC. He was referring to the vast networks of exchange of intellectual, scientific, economic, financial and technological knowledge among the developed countries.

He noted that cross-fertilization of the North had been flourishing through their research and development centres, universities and specialized training institutes, technical and commercial journals, libraries and advanced information systems. Mr. Waldheim suggested that the South now has an opportunity to encourage and practice similar co-operation among its nations.

It was repeatedly stressed that there is now only limited contact and co-operation among the two billion people of the South. Their common bond is largely their untapped skills and creativity. TCDC thus translates to self-help and self-reliance. TCDC also spelled "inter-dependence," and re-direction with greater commitment of existing "vertical" aid flowing from the North.

As seen by UNDP administrator Bradford Morse, "additionality" means more financial resources from both developed



A bio-gas plant such as this one in India is an example of an appropriate technology developed as a

result of co-operation among developing countries. UN photo.

and those developing countries which can afford it. To him, TCDC is more than changing the passport of an expert in the field, or the stamp of country of manufacture of project equipment. It demands "bold, imaginative and flexible approaches that may often require changing the rules."

He feels that if there is to be a dramatic thrust forward in TCDC, "there must be experimentation and innovation — there must be trial and error." He sees the challenge as helping to achieve the intellectual and technological liberation of peoples to enhance the quality of their lives.

There was considerable discussion on this point.

The most rudimentary approach was for the developing countries to "buy Third World." Integration of regions and sub-continent was recommended to enhance development. The Council of Arab Economic Unity advised the conference that since 1973, over (U.S.) \$2 billion has been invested in joint ventures to equalize development in the Arab world.

The ASEAN countries—Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand—have gone into joint industrial plants and co-operative projects in commodities, trade, production, population and information.

Israel told the conference that since 1955, more than 10,000 Israeli experts served in developing countries, and that more than 20,000 Third World students were trained in Israel. Cuba said that 7,000 technicians and specialists are currently serving in 22 countries. Romania said it is now the host to approximately 12,000 apprentices from Africa, Asia and Latin America, and offered to organize a conference on co-operation for the development of agriculture.

But there were also demands and expressions of anger.

Sri Lanka said that technology is "the common heritage of all mankind" and that the legal and proprietary claims of those who now happen to control it cannot be defended on humanist and moral grounds.

Echoing this sentiment, Mexico said that "there can be no development without self-determination, and no self-determination without technology."

Oil-rich Iraq called on the developed countries to "play their natural role and to assume full responsibilities for solving all the problems facing the developing countries."

Algeria said that TCDC must not be limited to an exchange of indigenous knowledge but should be extended to

"all kinds of knowledge, including nuclear technology."

Angola complained that far too often, technical co-operation is nothing more than heavily tied loans. Equipment and services must be purchased from a specific source, thus eating up more than half of the loan.

There were many complaints and acknowledgements that the knowledge and skills imported by the Third World, often at great cost to their economies, are fixed in totally different and sometimes unsuitable ideological and conceptual frames. Thus, the traditional flow of aid cannot often be fully utilized due to the failure of adapting indigenous materials, skills and resources to modern needs.

One answer to this problem was that the developing countries must break the "psychological and attitudinal barrier" to their own development.

Commonwealth Secretary-General Shridath S. Ramphal of Guyana said that the Third World had been brainwashed to believe that the best education, technology, services and even intellects come from the developed world. He complained that the development process continued to be confused with "Westernization," which he characterized as the adoption of foreign modes euphemistically presented as "modernization."

Mr. Ramphal would have the "rich" transfer to the "poor" the responsibility for making decisions on what type of development they want, and with what technology and experts. He would stop the flow of Third World technocrats to the universities and industries of North America and Western Europe in search of knowledge. He argues that this makes their countries dependent on Western technology. This in turn inhibits development of the poor and is an obstruction to real self-reliance.

The Ramphal speech constituted one of the emotional highlights of the TCDC conference. But the realities never went away. One was reflected in a message from U.S. President Jimmy Carter who praised the concept of collective self-reliance of the "have-nots" but reminded them that TCDC is not so much a question of transfer of technology but the ability of the needy countries to absorb it.

Canada, like the rest of the traditional donor countries, expressed its full support of TCDC, offered its knowledge and experience to those who desired them, guarded against temptations to create another UN super-structure for the experiment, and warned that "additionality" does not necessarily mean new and vast voluntary contributions.

Canada did stress that it has had a strong and sympathetic interest in TCDC. It saw TCDC as any of several different approaches:

- the use of fairly sophisticated technologies obtained from semi-developed Third World countries;
- the use of simpler techniques applicable to practical solutions to Third World countries' needs;
- a collective attempt by the have-nots to generate and exchange new techniques or approaches to problems they jointly face; and
- an effort by them to go beyond joint economic research and problem-solving in working out common positions on North-South economic negotiations.

Canada also sounded a cautionary note on how far the developing countries can count on TCDC to bail them out of their current economic and technological difficulties. It told the conference that it is in the nature of modern technology that developed Canada "will have to import most of the new technology it will require in the years ahead."

The United States rejected the notion that lack of financing is the main problem holding back TCDC. To it, the term "attitudinal barrier" meant, in some cases, envy, distrust, ignorance, or fear of one's neighbor.

In other cases, it referred to long-historical, now invisible, colonial linkages. The U.S. called them "psychological barriers" to effective TCDC, and called on the conference to recognize that they exist.

The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) said that in the last three decades, aviation has made "gigantic progress" in the developing countries. More than half of the international airlines and airports reporting to ICAO, belong to developing countries.

Local personnel operate the sophisticated equipment necessary to maintain, high level of aviation performance. But ICAO said bluntly that in aviation, "TCDC cannot replace world-wide technical co-operation." It said that modern standards require up-to-date technology which can now be obtained mostly from some of the developed countries.

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) delivered a similar message. Telecommunications, it said, function throughout the world "like the nervous system of the human body." It added that for TCDC to succeed, it must be based on adequately developed and properly equipped telecommunication networks.

The developing countries were urged to view the computer as a development tool through which information becomes

a physical resource. They were invited by several of the industrialized countries to take advantage of computerized knowledge which offers information on almost any conceivable situation in the development process.

But the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) came to the defense of the recipient countries by agreeing with them that technology from industrialized North is not always appropriate for the immediate needs and socio-economic setting of the South.

Some major technical breakthroughs need to be shared among the have-nots. FAO included among them high-yielding crops; soil and water conservation; integration of forestry and food production; post-harvest technology and extension techniques for small farms; recycling of organic waste; and the harnessing of water, wind and solar energy for farm use.

But it was Papua New Guinea which warned that some of these technologies, if applied blindly, would "disintegrate" the societies of the South.

It cited "the pill" and the loop, "miracle seeds" and medical breakthroughs, as remarkable in themselves. Yet, it said, their promises have gone sour in some countries because of a persistent belief that technology is neutral, that problems which are political, economic and social "can be solved by steel, glass and plastic."

At the end of the conference, it was generally recognized that in the context of the ongoing deadlock in the four-year old North-South dialogue on a new world economic order, the TCDC Plan of Action represents a distinctly upbeat note of progress and international understanding.

No participating country saw it as a zero-sum game. The West took comfort in the seeming recognition of the "have-nots" that the North-South dialogue is not simply an argument about redistribution of finite resources on a more equitable basis. The developing countries were more than ready to recognize that self-help is not tantamount to self-reliance, and that inter-dependence means complementing self-help with perhaps even larger doses of capital and technology infusions into the awakening Third World.

The TCDC potential has been recognized and accepted. All that is now necessary is to test and improve it through practice. **DD**

Jeff Endrst is Development Directions' correspondent at the UN. He attended the TCDC conference in Buenos Aires.

TCDC: WORLD PLAN OF ACTION



A farmer in the Philippines uses a power tiller developed at the International Rice Research Institute. UN photo.

An action plan to help the developing countries boost their national and collective self-reliance through the pooling of technical knowledge and experience was adopted in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in September.

The United Nations Conference on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries adopted a Plan of Action for promoting and implementing technical co-operation among developing countries (TCDC).

A key element in the Plan is new inter-governmental machinery for reviewing TCDC activities. This task was entrusted to a high-level meeting of all States participating in the UN Development Program (UNDP). The first meeting is scheduled for 1980.

The Plan also spells out financial arrangements for TCDC activities by which "a sizeable proportion" of UNDP resources are to be managed "in close consultation with the developing countries concerned."

The Plan of Action was adopted by consensus. It states that TCDC is becoming a critically important dimension in the attainment of a new international economic order. The Plan is described as a vital force for initiating, designing, organizing and promoting co-operation among developing countries so that they can "create, acquire, adapt, transfer and pool knowledge and experience for their mutual benefit and for achieving national and collective self-reliance which are essential for their social and economic development."

The Plan recognizes that UNDP has particular responsibility for the promotion and support of TCDC.

It says that although the financing of TCDC activities is "primarily the responsibility of the developing countries themselves, it will nevertheless be necessary for the developed countries and the UN development system to financially support these activities without prejudice to the decision-making control by the developing countries of these TCDC activities."

The Plan proposes that the developed countries and their institutions increase their voluntary contributions to the operational programs of the UN development system. They should also provide financial support on a voluntary basis to technical co-operation between two or more developing countries, accelerate the process of untying their aid resources and give, in their economic and technical co-operation activities, due priority to inter-country projects and programs at the bilateral, subregional, regional and inter-regional levels which promote TCDC.

The Plan calls on regional and international funds, development banks and other intergovernmental financial institutions and aid agencies to make special efforts to finance TCDC projects and activities. It further proposes that the developing countries might consider earmarking a percentage of their Indicative Planning Figure (IPF) at the national level for financing TCDC projects at the bilateral and subregional levels. (The IPF is the amount of money that UNDP expects to make available to a country over a specific, normally five-year period.)

The Plan says that the responsibility for identifying and initiating such projects and activities should lie with the developing countries of the regions. It specifies that financial support for TCDC projects should include "increased flows of development assistance on a predictable, assured and continuous basis." It stipulates that the developed countries should provide on a voluntary basis and without prejudice to existing programs, additional financial support for TCDC projects and activities.

Addressing itself to the problem of the "brain drain," the Plan proposes that the UN development system and the specialized agencies dealing with migration should assist interested developing countries in encouraging patterns of voluntary migration in the interests of their development, including not only selective migration of skilled people between developing countries, but also the return of scientific, professional and technical personnel living outside their countries of origin.

Each developing country should, according to the Plan, consider adopting policies favorable to TCDC. These should include working out the legal and administrative framework for effective co-operation. That framework should cover the entry, employment, obligations, privileges and immunities of experts and consultants, fellowships, the use of contractors and other specialist services, the entry of equipment and supplies, and fiscal and currency regimes favorable to TCDC.

The Plan proposes the strengthening of information systems dealing with national capacities, knowledge and experience for use in TCDC, with the support of the information systems of the United Nations.

The developing countries should maintain co-operation and communication between public enterprises and institutions in their own and other developing countries with a view to promoting closer technical collaboration. Similarly, their governments should encourage comparable arrangements with regard to national private enterprises and institutions and professional and technical organizations.

As for action at the global level, the Plan notes that the thrust of international technical co-operation should be increasingly directed towards enhancing the capacities of developing countries to help themselves and each other. The use of resources of UNDP and other multi-lateral and bilateral agencies should reflect this change in emphasis.

In addition to the Plan of Action, the two-week conference in Buenos Aires, adopted three resolutions submitted by the developing countries.

One urges increased assistance to the Namibian people to ensure that independent Namibia could acquire the capacity to participate fully in TCDC activities and projects.

The second resolution urges the developing countries to co-operate in the strengthening of existing research and training centers with a view to providing them with a multinational scope in the framework of TCDC, and to establish new ones.

In the third resolution, the conference urges the international organizations and regional institutions concerned to take appropriate measures to develop TCDC activities in the spheres of employment and the development of human resources. **DD**

THE BANTU SOCIETY



Photos: Felix Kerr

The Bantu Society is a co-operative created mainly by the women of Golden Grove, a small village in Guyana. To help this village located in one of the two least-developed parts of Guyana, CIDA provided \$17,000 Guyanese (\$7,500 Canadian) so the co-operative could obtain urgently needed equipment and transportation.

The Bantu Society was thus able to purchase a small truck, a grain-mill to replace the makeshift grinder they had put together and a solar dryer for food preservation. Part of the funds were used to set up a small clinic and a shop to sell food and other goods.

The project, which also included the cultivation of five acres of land on which the co-operative is growing various grains, was financed through the small-projects fund provided to Canadian embassies and high commission—the mission administered funds (MAF) program.

DD

The International Year of the Child



1979 International
Year of the Child

In 1959, the United Nations adopted a Declaration of the Rights of the Child in which affection, love and understanding, adequate nutrition and medical care, free education, and full opportunity for play and recreation were the featured principles.

But in the two decades since, more than 10 million children died each year before the age of one. A large percentage died before the age of five. Millions suffered from hunger, malnutrition and lack of educational opportunities.

In 1976, the UN General Assembly proclaimed 1979 the International Year of the Child (IYC).

Why? For one and a half billion reasons — most of them under 10 years old.

The IYC is an opportunity to make children the focal point of world concern in 1979. It is designed to promote the idea that programs for children should be an integral part of economic and social development.

There will be no Hollywood-type extravaganza to dramatize the aims of IYC.

There won't even be an international conference to highlight the year-long effort. Instead, the UN is banking on grassroots campaigns in countries and communities around the world to raise the public awareness of children's needs and to promote lasting action for their benefit.

The UN designated UNICEF to coordinate IYC activities. Active participation in the Year has been indicated by more than 140 countries including Canada. More than 90 of them have set up national commissions, mostly on the governmental level. In some developed

countries, the impetus for IYC programs has been provided by non-governmental organizations.

In Canada, 14 such groups have formed a "Canadian committee" on IYC to act as a catalyst within the voluntary sector and as a lobby to promote IYC to all levels of government. Andrew Cohen of the Canadian Council of Children and Youth is the chairman. The Toronto Children's Hospital has given the committee \$20,000 to start their work which will concentrate on information gathering and dissemination, liaison with governments, and a resource center.

Canada has informed UNICEF that some provincial governments have already set up preparatory committees, despite financial restraints. Canada pledged to make IYC "a stimulating and enlightening year for all Canadians."

Internationally, by far the biggest gesture of support behind IYC aims has come from Iran. It diverted \$7.1 million from its defense budget to promote IYC programs.

The economic importance of the child, and the financial implications of parenthood, are two aspects of the population-development link to be studied with new interest during IYC.

Britain plans to concentrate on subjects like the child and violence, preparations for parenthood, and programs for children by children.

Poland plans to mint a special commemorative coin. It also plans to initiate legislative improvements concerning children. The highlight of IYC activities is to be the completion of an international children's hospital in Warsaw, built solely from private donations.

Poland hopes that its "Order of the Smile" can be internationalized. It is the only award conferred by children upon adults "for their outstanding contribution to the cause of children and their happiness."

Austria will conduct a radio and television campaign to give its citizens up-to-date educational advice, a special program for handicapped children, and a campaign on children's safety in traffic.

Hungary plans to establish a Fund of Solidarity with Children, to assist developing countries.

The Netherlands is behind a drive to raise international awareness of children's needs in the Third World.

Planned celebrations for IYC include a children's festival of films under the sponsorship of the Milan International Fair; music, painting and art competitions among children in many countries, and the publication of children's books.

One non-governmental organization is heading an effort to immunize 200,000 children in developing countries. Provision of better legal protection of children is a top priority in some countries. Other activities range from pattern of life of nomadic children to the responsibility of fathers. A pilot project for mental health services has been developed for Manila. Others include one for children born to prisoners.

Estefania Aldaba-Lim of the Philippines, who is the special UN representative of the IYC, is convinced that 1979 will see the beginning of a higher global priority for children and measurable improvements in their situation. DD



CIDA Photo: Dilip Mehta

Australian development assistance

by Stan Moore

Australia. A continent, a country, an island. Geographically, Australia stands on its own, but the development view from "Down Under" extends well beyond its shores.

As an industrialized nation sharing a culture and a standard of living with a continent half-a-world away, Australia is well aware that most of its closest neighbors are less privileged.

The Australian Development Assistance Bureau (ADAB) administers that country's aid program. The bulk of Australia's bilateral aid traditionally goes to its closest neighbors in Oceania and Asia.

About 51 per cent of its total aid budget of \$528 million (figures are expressed in American dollars; \$1 Aus = \$1.61 U.S.) has been allocated to Papua New Guinea, which until achieving full independence three years ago was administered by Australia under a trusteeship agreement with the United Nations and its predecessor, the League of Nations.

Australia committed itself in 1976 to provide a minimum of \$209 million for each of the following five years to the Papua New Guinea government for budgetary support. Papua New Guinea has the full authority to allocate these funds in accordance with its own development plans and priorities.

Most of Australia's bilateral aid to other countries is given in support of projects, whereby funds, equipment, goods and experts are made available for particular activities requested by recipient governments.

A significant new development over recent years is Australia's increasing involvement in large-scale, integrated development programs intended to bring about the balanced development of whole regions in such countries as Indonesia, the Philippines and Thailand.

Last year, far-reaching changes to Australia's food aid program were announced. In making these changes Australia, as a leading food producer, has reaffirmed its willingness to play a major role in enhancing world food security — a move which has pleased Australian wheat producers.

During the 1977-78 fiscal year, \$33 million was spent on food aid. This amount is expected to double over the next two fiscal years. This year's food aid budget is \$42 million.



Weighing village livestock. The Australian highland agronomy project, Thailand. ADAB photo.

Although the bulk of the foodgrain will continue to be given bilaterally, Australia has agreed to increase progressively the amount of wheat channelled through the World Food Program (WFP) to a level of 20 per cent of all its foodgrain aid.

Australia plans to further develop its assistance to nutritional impact projects by the provision of non-grain foods such as milk powder, meat and edible oils. These projects are designed to combat malnutrition among specific vulnerable groups such as infants and nursing mothers.

Last year the Australian government announced for the first time a formal commitment of aid of \$290 million for the five countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN). A number of important new initiatives accompanied the commitment. These included the untying of procurement so that eligible suppliers in all ASEAN countries may tender for equipment and materials for a project in any ASEAN country along with Australian suppliers; an increased ability to pay local costs from Australian aid funds in recognition of the constraint that being unable to do so often imposes upon projects; and greater use of co-financing arrangements with other principally multilateral sources of finance.

Australia has pledged a grant of \$17 million to promote joint economic co-operation projects within ASEAN.

Support for training has been a traditional aspect of that country's bilateral aid. However, the new policy increases

the emphasis on training of people from Third World countries in Australia at the expense of Australia paying for their in-country or third-country training.

There is also increased emphasis on short practical group courses and post-graduate studies. It is expected that more than 30 international training courses (ITCs) and single institution courses (SICs) relevant to the manpower training needs of the national development plans of developing countries will be held in Australia.

The bureau is currently reviewing all aspects of the administration of the training program so as to make the administration less labor-intensive and the training given more cost-effective. With the high unemployment rate in Australia, the move to less labor intensity is questioned by many in Australia.

Substantial support for the development assistance activities of non-governmental organizations has never been a priority of Australia's aid program and in spite of the bureau's boast of a 150 per cent increase in its support during the past two years, the amount still only represents 0.4 per cent of the total aid budget. This amounts to \$2 million compared with CIDA's \$52 million for 1978-79 to support NGO development activities.

Australia's commitment to multilateral assistance has decreased by approximately 14 per cent since last year with an allocation of \$79 million this year. This represents 15 per cent of the total aid budget. Historically, Australian financial support for multinational development organizations has been small, and its support for United Nations agencies remains at a low level, estimated this fiscal year to be \$27 million.

When the coalition of the Liberal and National parties won a resounding majority in December 1975, many development aid supporters in that country feared the government's right-wing orientation would lead to major reductions in development assistance.

In fact, in 1976 the Australian Development Assistance Agency (ADAA) lost much of its autonomy when it was replaced by an Australian Development Assistance Bureau (ADAB) within the Department of Foreign Affairs. Furthermore, 25 per cent of the staff were laid off at the same time.

But in terms of overall financial commitment, indications are that "Down Under" the bottom has not fallen out of development assistance. **DD**

Stan Moore is a CIDA information officer.

Slow sand filter at the service of rural areas of the Third World

by N.C. Thanh

Recent developments in water treatment have been mainly in the area of improving the rapid sand filtration technique. However, it should be realized that the older and unchanged slow sand filtration system does have certain advantages and should be retained in the chain of development of low-cost technology for rural communities in developing countries.

It is a single process with the greatest range of effects on water properties and can achieve good results by a system that is simple to construct and operate. It is less complicated, can suffer more abuse and still produce high grade water and, where land area is not a limiting factor, usually requires less investment.

One major problem in applying slow sand filtration technique to treat turbid surface waters in tropical regions is that the suspended silt quickly blocks the filter. However, a slow sand filter can be maintained in good working condition in spite of excessive turbidity (particularly inorganic turbidity) which causes rapid clogging of the filter surface, necessitating frequent cleaning.

Where the raw source contains high amounts of turbidity and algae, prefilters can be used to remove most of the turbidity and algae before the water passes through a slow sand filter for polishing and removal of remaining impurities.

One of the sound pretreatment techniques recently developed at the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) in Bangkok is the horizontal-flow coarse-material prefiltration. Its main advantage is that when raw water flows through it, a combination of filtration and gravity settling takes place which invariably reduces the concentration of suspended solids. The effluent from the filter, being less turbid, can be further easily treated by the conventional slow sand filter.



Residents of Jedeethong village in Thailand working on a filtration system that will increase their supply of clean water.
Photo: Asian Institute of Technology.

Over the past two years, AIT's environmental engineering division has successfully conducted tests on the performance of the horizontal-flow coarse-material prefilter in removing the major bulk of turbidity particles in raw water for subsequent treatment by slow sand filter.

Based on this encouraging result and assisted by a research associate award grant of the Ottawa-based International Development Research Centre (IDRC), a low-cost water filtration system was designed and constructed in Jedeethong Village, Thailand. The design of the system consisted of a horizontal-flow coarse-material prefilter packed with crushed stones to treat the raw river water, followed by a slow sand filter system to polish this water for human consumption.

Jedeethong Village has been selected as project site because it responded to the main objectives of the project: to improve the public health and socio-economic situation and thus the well-being of the villagers; to promote a self-

generating autonomous development process, leading to self-reliance, by creating local capabilities and stimulating the use of local resources in the field of water supply and sanitation.

Residents of Jedeethong showed great enthusiasm and were willing to support the project with their sweat and finances. Households in this village have always depended on rain water in earthen jars or water direct from Chao Phya River without any treatment for their water supply. Each household has its own lavatory. The new water treatment project is another phase in the development of a water supply system as part of the total sanitary program for the village.

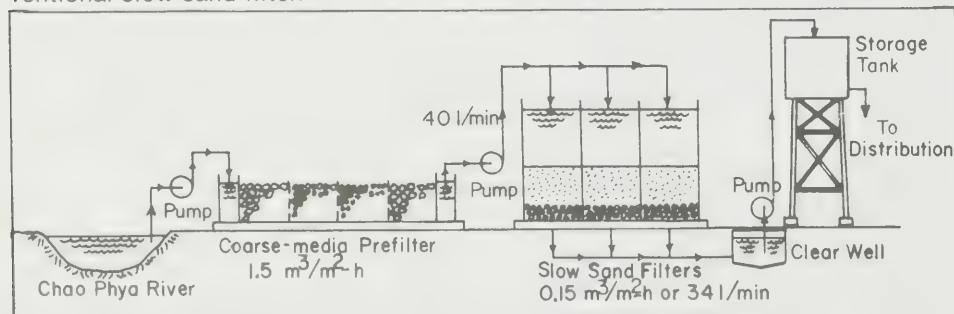
Emphasis was given on the participation of the villagers during the various phases of construction and operation. The villagers, under the supervision of AIT's team, undertook the on-the-job learning of construction techniques.

After seven months, construction work was completed and the system became operational for the testing of water quality. Both the prefilter and the slow sand filters performed remarkably well with an efficiency removal rate of about 92 per cent of turbidity and 96 to 99 per cent of coliform organisms. The slow sand filters, after a three-week ripening, gave an excellent water quality with a turbidity varying between 1-5 JTU, and coliform content, 1-10 counts per 100 ml, which is safe for human consumption.

How much is all this safe drinking water costing the villagers? The total construction cost amounted to about US\$5,000 or about US\$30 per family of six. Operating the system from six to eight hours daily would cost the whole village US\$80 per month or about US50 cents per family. Not including the construction costs, one cubic meter of water costs approximately US5 cents, which is essentially electricity cost, pump maintenance and two operators' wages.

The management of the water treatment plant is now in the hands of the district officer who commissions the village head to supervise its operation. With sustained efforts of routine running of the plant by a well-trained operator, high performance efficiency was ensured. It is hoped that Jedeethong Village will be equipped with a strong program of health education and sanitation so it could be a model for other rural communities to follow. DD

N.C. Thanh is chairman of the environmental engineering division at the Asian Institute of Technology in Bangkok, Thailand.



Water Treatment System at Jedeethong Village, Thailand

The Brain Drain— Emigration & Return

Findings of a UNITAR multinational comparative survey of professional personnel of developing countries who study abroad.

Pergamon Press, Oxford, New York, Toronto,

324 pages, \$15.

by William A. Glaser

Brain Drain is a Third World malady for which there is no obvious cure. "There is no clear-cut tendency for developing countries to regain or lose able persons more than others. But possibly the least able are most likely to return," writes author William Glaser in his book "The Brain Drain—Emigration and Return."

"Brain drain" could therefore be characterized as an outflow of people from developing to industrialized countries for educational or training purposes, who in the end do not return to apply their skills in their own countries.

William Glaser identifies "The Brain Drain—Emigration and Return" as a study which complements but does not duplicate previous work done on the same subject. The volume reports the finding of a multinational comparative survey carried out under the sponsorship of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR).

A number of findings in the report are different from currently accepted notions regarding brain drain. For example, the report establishes that the level of income is not the strongest determinant of decision for an individual to return to his home country or to remain abroad; nor is a high level of economic development or rate of growth necessarily seen as the reason for reduction of brain drain.

Strangely enough, it found that among developing countries whose nationals go to developed countries for their professional education, it is the nationals of the more prosperous and growing countries that say they plan to remain abroad or who actually emigrate. This is due to the fact that less developed countries have a combination of economic and non-economic incentives which induce persons to return home.

Opportunities are seen as being greater because professionals are few. In addition the culture and the family structure often makes it too difficult for a profes-

sional to adjust to another environment other than that of his native country.

The UNITAR research identifies the constellation of economical, social and other motivations and influences that bear upon the decisions of an individual to go abroad and to return home. Much information can be obtained from this study regarding the condition of work and life for professionals in many countries.

In comparing loss of manpower among the developing countries, the report points to widely varying situations. Some regain nearly all nationals who study abroad, while others lose so many people that their development may suffer in the future. It is believed that higher levels of economic development and higher rates of economic growth, by themselves, do not reduce brain drain. It is the balance between the education of professional persons and employment opportunities that serves as the crucial criterion.

The study shows that a country will lose more of its citizens if it educates more people than the economy can absorb, and if the foreign-trained feel their job opportunities are uncertain at home. Improved manpower planning and better co-ordination between the educational and economic sectors, according to the report, could produce the right balance.

Canada is among the countries more open to migrants than others and the author relates one of his comparative studies to it as follows:

"Type of visa is often thought closely associated with permanent migration of students. Therefore, it is said, brain drain can be reduced by limiting the number of entry visas that enable persons to settle in developed countries.

"Type of visa is associated with migration plans in our data. A much higher proportion of foreign students in Canada than in other developed countries plan to emigrate, because it is much easier to enter Canada with immigrant papers."

In conclusion the study looks at "brain drain" on individual country basis, and it states:

"The needs of each country and the harm due to emigration must be studied in depth, and accurate generalization about the costs and benefits of brain drain cannot be made on the basis of statistics or surveys applying to all countries." DD

reviewed by Jeff Endrst

Jeff Endrst is Development Directions' correspondent at the UN.

The Economics Game

Produced by United Nations Radio and Visual Services Division
12 minutes, color.



This film is as much a propaganda piece in its way as is Tale of an Iron Snake reviewed in the October '78 issue of Development Directions. But it is a simple, low-budget affair that does an excellent job of explaining the complex business of international aid and trade. Best of all, that ponderous phrase "the new international economic order" is not even mentioned until the very end of the film, though the NIEO is what the film is all about.

Anyone who has ever played Monopoly will recognize the economics game. As in Monopoly, the players are allotted their portions by chance. But in the economics game the poor (those who are dealt too few resources and too many people) have no chance to catch up. The cards are stacked against them, and the rules are set by the rich. It is graphic simplification of how our inequitable world economic system works.

Like Monopoly too, this film can be understood and enjoyed by anyone aged 10 or more. It could and should be widely used in schools, where it might provide a catalyst for some interesting consciousness-raising sessions. In fact if the UN, which produced the film, has not already done so, it should consider a deal with Parker Brothers to market the economics game (the game, not the film). It could have a best-seller on its hands, and in the process might do a lot more to change people's attitudes than all the earnest pleas of the NIEO advocates could hope to achieve. DD

reviewed by Bob Stanley

Bob Stanley is a writer and editor for the International Development Research Centre, Ottawa.

The African "brain drain"

by Patrick M. Kisuule

The number of Africans who come to Western countries—to North America in particular—has been increasing for three major reasons: worsening political conditions in Africa, narrowing economic opportunities in Africa and the liberalization of North American immigration laws.

The U.S. quota system of immigration based on ethnic and national origins has been abolished by Congress. Asians and Africans now stand a better chance of being allowed to settle in the United States.

Today's African immigrants are not helpless captives from African villages—they are the most sophisticated Africans in history.

The brain drain from Africa will gather momentum in 1980s. The immigrants will be seeking both refuge from dictatorial rulers in Africa and new economic opportunities for themselves in North America.

In the first 30 years of the 20th century more than 300,000 immigrants entered the United States from the Caribbean. Most settled in coastal towns and took lowly paid jobs.

But it is the last quarter of the 20th century which will witness the wave of highly skilled black arrivals direct from the African continent as well as from the Caribbean.

This trend has already started, receiving its first major push from those African and Asian countries with unstable regimes.

Apartheid and tyranny have between them served as a catalyst of a new phenomenon — nomadic black intellectuals traversing Africa and the world.

A notable trend is that this intellectual nomadism is partly intra-African. In earlier decades of this century it was mainly peasants, petty traders, and the new immigrant laborers that crossed territorial borders, seeking to improve their modest economic means. Now it is the "intellectuals."

A distinction must be made here between economic refuge and political asylum. When laborers from Malawi pour into the mines of South Africa seeking jobs, they are seeking economic refuge from the poverty and underdevelopment of Malawi. But when frightened Acholis and Baganda peasants pour into Kenya or Tanzania from a genocide outbreak in Uganda the quest is for political asylum.



The late 1980s and early 1990s will probably witness dramatic improvements in communications within Africa, and this will prompt yet another migration within the continent. The Mombasa to Lagos trans-continental highway will be only the beginning.

After much hesitation about what to do with their petrodollars, the oil producers and the Middle East are likely to extend considerable assistance to the task of improving African communications by the end of the decade. Economically motivated movements of laborers and petty traders will continue over longer distances, in spite of the resistance of some African governments. Inter-penetration of African populations across territorial boundaries will increase.

But at least as significant as the movement of laborers and petty traders will be the movement of intellectuals. Nigeria is likely to establish a "peace-corps" of its own — bearing a different name — designed to serve similar aims of technical assistance to those of the Kennedy experiment in the U.S.

Some degree of "anti-Nigerianism" will have grown in precisely those African countries benefiting most from Nigeria's wealth and expertise. A new form of aggressive dependency — black aid-recipient against black aid-donor—will have become part of the African scene.

By the middle 1980s a few more African countries will probably have struck oil. This energy source will remain important at least to the end of the century, though other forms of fuel will by then also be in use.

South Africa will probably have had its main revolution by the 1980s if the West severs its ties with the "Afrikaans" regime. With the blacks of South Africa controlling gold, and the Arab world controlling much of the dollar reserves an Afro-Arab alliance would then become a major factor in the stability of any international monetary system. No doubt, this would prompt intervention by other major powers.

The black triumph in South Africa might contribute to the new Bantu migration, partly through the growing influence of Black South Africans in other parts of the continent. Once again Nigeria and South Africa may take the lead in facilitating the movement of their own intellectuals into other African areas but under vastly different conditions.

As for the intellectuals of smaller African countries, they may sometimes move to neighboring African countries in response to political pressures in their own societies.

Those refugees who have moved into professional jobs in Kenya, Tanzania and Zambia are precursors of the new Bantu migration of the coming decades with-in the African continent itself, much smaller in scale than the historic expansion of the Bantu, but much better endowed in skills and ideas than any other African migration in history.

But of greater international implications is African migration to the developed industrial countries, especially the West. Some of these countries are tightening up their immigration requirements; others are liberalizing. The U.S. has gotten more liberal, so has Australia. The United Kingdom has gotten less liberal and Canada is also moving in the direction of allowing fewer immigrants. **DD**

Patrick M. Kisuule, a former journalist in Uganda, is a writer living in Ottawa.

Readers of *Development Directions* are invited to send submissions to this column. Items should not be more than 1,000 words, preferably typed and double spaced. Send submissions to:

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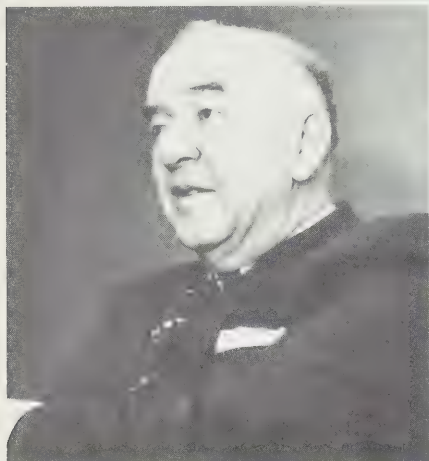
A NEWSMAGAZINE ON INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
JANUARY-FEBRUARY 1979



EDUCATING
CANADIANS ON
DEVELOPMENT



VOLUME 2 NUMBER 2



In the March/April issue. . .

The next issue of Development Directions will feature an interview with the out-going Canadian Ambassador to UNESCO, Mr. Yvon Beaulne.

In another article, Raymond Grenier will discuss the focus of Canadian involvement in UNESCO's activities.

Photo: Andrew Bako

Development Directions is published six times a year by the Canadian International Development Agency under the authority of the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honorable Don C. Jamieson.

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The opinions expressed in this magazine do not necessarily reflect the opinion or policies of the Canadian International Development Agency.

Development Directions welcomes letters to the editor. Submissions should be addressed to:

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200, Promenade du Portage
Hull, Québec, Canada
K1A 0G4

ISSN 0705-064X

Second Class Mail

Registration Number 4353

Contract No. OKX7-1173

Beauregard Press

Printed in Canada

Cover:

"Development education seen as the vehicle to viewing the Third World realistically."

by Stephen Clarke

DEVELOPMENT DIRECTIONS

VOLUME 2 NUMBER 1 JANUARY•FEBRUARY•1979

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Education — a simple word that covers a vast array of activities relating to human development. With the opening of the International Year of the Child, much attention is being given to preparing the child to take charge of his own destiny and the destiny of the world itself.

It is not enough to supply schooling for tomorrow's leaders. The child's social milieu plays a large part in his intellectual formation. Therefore, that milieu must also be changed if we wish to develop a future world based on justice for all — Canadians as well as citizens of developing countries.

Articles by Candace Carr-Harris and Roy LaBerge deal with CIDA's program of education in the Third World, and the role of Canada's universities in the field of development.

Our UN correspondent, Jeff Endrst, points out the international dimension of the "Educational City" in an article dealing with the United Nations University, a unique institution which has effects in industrialized as well as Third World countries.

CIDA's efforts to sensitize Canadians to the need for development co-operation begins with the advisers (coopérants) it sends overseas. CIDA's Briefing Centre for coopérants is described by Daniel Fontigny. Efforts to sensitize the Canadian public are made by non-governmental organizations which receive grants from CIDA and provincial governments. Daniel Moisan and Roger Levett give a number of examples of those organizations' programs in Quebec and the rest of the country.

Paul W. Endrst



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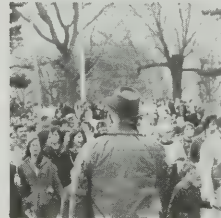
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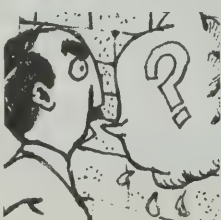
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AGRICULTURE

INDIA AFTER THE GREEN REVOLUTION



CIDA photo

by Linda MacLennan

The post-independence history of India's agricultural development is filled with strategies as unsuitable and ineffective as "an elephant in downtown London".

Kusum Nair, an Indian journalist, self-proclaimed economist and "student of development" made this point in seminars at Carleton University and the University of Toronto in November. She declared that the only viable strategy left for India to adopt is one which will completely restructure its society.

"We must strike at the age-old agrarian hierarchy which India has inherited and bring in a new class of farmers," asserted Mrs. Nair. "We must nationalize the land and parcel it out again."

Mrs. Nair is author of the book "Blossoms in the Dust: The Human Factor in Development". She has recently completed a follow-up work which re-examines the plight of the Indian farmer 25 years after independence entitled "In Defence of the Irrational Farmer: India after the Green Revolution".

Nearly 50 per cent of India's population lives below the poverty line. However, the country is capable of producing ten times its present agricultural output. Despite a raft of government strategies to encourage food production, it has actually declined on a per capita basis over the last five years, said Mrs. Nair. And until the vast tracts of land held by a relatively small number of landlords is redistributed, she said, this deficit will continue.

"In a country of such poverty, landlords have no business owning land if they don't make use of it. It's a crime that a man holding a good deal of land is allowed to exploit only one-quarter of its potential," she said.

Mrs. Nair conceded that there might not be sufficient land for all farmers who want it. However small-scale, intensive farming would be stressed and a ceiling of two hectares (five acres) would be imposed under her nationalization proposal.

She rejected the notion that a move by the government to nationalize the land would be met with strong opposition from landowners and would raise serious questions about a country which calls itself a democracy.

"This restructuring of the agrarian society can be controlled against landowner outbreak because they are not organized, nor are they a homogeneous group," she pointed out. "We also have a system of gun control which will help."

Mrs. Nair disagreed with suggestions that the parcelling out of the nationalized land by bureaucratic administrators would provide ample opportunity for corruption and patronage.

Once the land was redistributed, there would need to be a system of taxation to encourage farmers to produce at optimum levels, she said.

"The Green Revolution taught us that those farmers who did well with the old techniques also did well with the new techniques. However, the Green Revolution failed to transform the inefficient farmer into an efficient one," she said.

"This pattern has persisted through the '50s, '60s and the '70s. The bad farmers have remained bad farmers."

Mrs. Nair spoke of some of the typical landowners she had met during her travels through the Indian states.

She recalled one well-to-do landowner who did respond to the new techniques and adopted new seeds, tractors and irrigation. He had six tractors and several bullock-drawn plows.

"He insisted on using the plows and the bullocks to till his fields and used the tractors — the ones which he had not yet let fall into disrepair — to transport people and goods," she recalled.

Another landlord, typical of many, adopted high-yielding varieties of seeds and then refused to irrigate his land.

"You see," she said, "beneath the surface, modernization has virtually changed nothing. Some large landowners are richer but are still inefficient."

"The determining factor is not the size of the farm but rather who owns it."

JOINT CIDA-SASKATCHEWAN-LESOTHO PROJECT

The federal and Saskatchewan governments are going to put Canadian know-how to work in a joint rural project in Lesotho.

The \$400,000 project, mounted under the federal-provincial Voluntary Agricultural Development Assistance (VADA) program, will include the provision of a clean water supply, irrigation, soil erosion control and the development of woodlots and village-scale egg, poultry, dairy and hog production projects.

CIDA will contribute \$240,000 for the purchase of materials and supplies in Canada, Saskatchewan will provide technical expertise and technical staff support, and Lesotho will supply local labor.

Ron Dalgliesh, deputy minister of the Saskatchewan Department of Agriculture, has been chosen as project leader. He began his two-year assignment early in January.

The VADA program was set up in 1975 as a formal channel permitting federal assistance to provincial initiatives in agricultural development assistance and food aid to Third World countries. Milk, beans, farmers' clothing, heifers, baby food, seeds, farm implements and other goods have been donated under the scheme by various provinces and sent to developing countries at CIDA's expense.

Seventeen fishermen from Belize have recently benefitted from a fisheries training course given by Nova Scotia at Pictou, but the Lesotho project marks the first time a province is sending an expert abroad under the VADA program.

Lesotho, a mountainous country of 1.2 million people, is entirely surrounded by the Republic of South Africa. Some 80 per cent of Lesotho's inhabitants depend on traditional peasant agriculture for a living.

The annual per capita income is \$81 and the average life expectancy is 48 years.

AFRICA

CANADIAN AID TO GHANA

An \$806,000 extension to Canadian assistance for the Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration (GIMPA) has been negotiated.

The joint Ghana-Canada project, begun in 1976, now totals \$2.1 million in CIDA grant funds for the Canadian components and will run for an additional three years. Purpose of the project is to upgrade planning and management skills of Ghana government and state corporation employees.

Dalhousie University has been providing the expertise for the Canadian technical assistance component of the project at the institute, just outside the capital city, Accra.

CANADIAN LOCOMOTIVES FOR EGYPT



Egypt has decided to standardize on GM locomotives, such as the one shown here supplied by Canada.
Photo: Ron Nelson

Canada will give a loan of \$50 million to Egypt for the purchase of Canadian locomotives and spare parts.

The agreement provides for the supply of 65 diesel locomotives to be built by General Motors (Canada) as part of Egypt's railway investment program. Currently 486 of 569 locomotives in the country are of GM manufacture and Egypt has decided to standardize on GM locomotives exclusively.

It has been estimated the contract with GM will create 200 jobs in Canada directly, as well as additional employment in the supplier industries.

It is possible that Canada may have further involvement with Egypt's long-term program of railway investment.

Egypt currently has approximately 3,600 km of standard-gauge rail line and is embarking on the renovation program recommended by a World Bank transport sector survey.

Terms of the CIDA loan call for an annual interest rate of three per cent and repayment over 30 years, starting after the seventh year.

Final delivery of the locomotives and spare parts is expected to be completed by late 1980 or early 1981.

MALAWI/CANADA DAIRY CATTLE PROJECT



Canada will help Malawi to up-grade its stock of cattle.
Photo: IDA

CIDA will contribute \$6.8 million for a dairy cattle project in Malawi.

The grant funds will be used to provide Canadian cattle, 39 man-years of technical assistance, 62 man-years of degree and diploma training, construction of farm buildings, and staff housing, equipment and vehicles. The aim of the project is to improve the quality of dairy stock in Malawi and to increase the supply of milk and dairy products.

The project is scheduled to begin in April 1979. Delivery of 500 Canadian Friesian heifers will be made in 1981 with completion of the project scheduled for the spring of 1984.

Cost breakdown is \$3.6 million in technical assistance, \$500,000 for cattle and \$2.7 million for equipment, materials and local costs. Total cost of the project, including the CIDA contribution, is \$8 million.

The project will establish three dairy farms — two farms to house milking herds of purebred Friesians and one

farm for distribution of high grade crossbred heifers and steers to small-holder farmers.

The project is expected to be self-supporting by 1983 through the sale of dairy products and crossbreds.

EDUCATION

STANDARDIZING VOCATIONAL TRAINING

What is the difference between CINTERFOR and CIADFOR?

The answer is: hardly any. The former stands for the Inter-American Centre of Research and Documentation on Vocational Training. The latter is the Inter-African Centre for Development of Vocational Training.

The International Labour Organization (ILO) is their parent body. Standardization of vocational training is their common goal.

For the first time in their relatively young existence (since 1964), the Montevideo and Abidjan-based centres were brought together by the ILO, the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and Brazil last August in Brasilia for an interchange of ideas and experience on how to teach skills to improve people's lives.

Eric Maertens, a Belgian-born ILO expert attached to the Montevideo centre, said in an interview that the Brasilia seminar represented a new and concrete example of South-to-South co-operation. He suggested that with industrial development comes the problem of legal and professional certification. Conversely, there is a mass of workers trained on the job but without papers to prove it.

Industries and governments in the developing countries are increasingly calling on the ILO centres to ascertain the knowledge of marginal workers and to set standards for future apprentices.

Kyrl Tidmarsh, ILO director of information who attended the Brasilia seminar, said that those responsible for the human dimension of development — be it in Brazil or in Guinea-Bissau — have little difficulty in identifying the problems they have in common.

One is the massive number of teenagers flooding the labor market. The other is a low level of primary education.

Mr. Tidmarsh said that Third World trainers must adapt training materials

and manuals to "the realities of local employment". They must take into account the educational levels, technical literacy and availability of materials and spare parts. Shortage of capital and production capacity means that the trainers have to push production and maintenance rather than development.

This means that educators and trainers in the Third World must improvise their own schemes to bring training to the rural areas where some of the greatest needs for skills exist. This includes, he said, mechanics, electricians and those able to maintain water pumps and other village equipment. "They have to avoid the danger of training beyond levels at which trainees can be effectively employed," Mr. Tidmarsh said.

The Brasilia seminar confirmed that no single model of training can be universally applied. But there can be exchange of teaching materials, and ideas. Africa plans a seminar to study the adaptation of Latin American training materials for car mechanics.

African technicians are planning to visit Latin America early in 1979 to attend a program for instructors in the hostelry and tourism sector.

SUPPLEMENTARY GRANT TO COADY INSTITUTE



Among its many activities in the field of co-operatives and leadership training, Coady organizes seminars overseas, such as this one held in Hong Kong.

Photo: Coady International Institute

A \$400,000 contribution from CIDA to Saint Francis Xavier University for its Coady International Institute was approved in December.

The grant, to be paid over two years, supplements a three-year, \$525,000

CIDA contribution made in 1976. That grant was meant to enable the institute not only to continue its courses for senior level personnel from the developing countries at Antigonish, Nova Scotia, but also to expand this training overseas. The courses are in social leadership and the operation and management of credit unions and cooperatives.

The new CIDA grant is to cover increased costs resulting from the fact that the Coady Institute has proceeded faster than expected in establishing such training facilities abroad.

In response to increasing demand for its professional expertise, the institute has been engaged in seminars and workshops in Asia, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, has acted as consultant to governments setting up training centres and is expanding its leadership courses in Canada.

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

WHEAT FOR PORTUGAL



Photo: Agriculture Canada

Canada is nearing completion of a \$15 million food aid program for Portugal.

The program, which is financed by a CIDA grant, is part of an international understanding to give Portugal balance of payments support.

During November 1977, Canada sent 56,000 tons of wheat worth \$7.5 million to Portugal.

In 1978, 25,000 tons of wheat worth \$4.5 million were provided, with the balance to be shipped this year.

NEWS SERVICE

CANADIAN SCIENCE WRITER HELPS ASIAN NEWS SERVICE

An experiment to set up a science news service in Asia was a 50-50 success or failure, depending on your point of view, according to Mac Laing, a Canadian journalist who participated in the effort for two years.

Mr. Laing said the venture was a success in that 200 newspapers and other media in seven languages used the stories, and 300 articles were written. The failure was that generally they did not pay for the service.

Mr. Laing was speaking at a seminar at the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) in Ottawa. A professor of journalism at the University of Western Ontario, he outlined his association with the Press Foundation of Asia (PFA) and its science news service. IDRC sponsored the project in conjunction with the PFA.

The science articles formed part of the "Depthnews Service" of the PFA. Asian writers concerned about the calibre of journalism in Asia formed the PFA ten years ago and have promoted better coverage of development-related events by training journalists and setting up the Depthnews Service. PFA asked IDRC to find a North American journalist to assist with the science component of the service. IDRC chose Mr. Laing, a former science writer with the Toronto Telegram and writer-editor for the UN Food and Agriculture Organization in Rome.

Mr. Laing worked at the PFA office in Manila and drew on a network of 11 correspondents in New Delhi, Colombo, Tokyo, Jakarta and Kuala Lumpur. The stories covered a wide range of topics from health to agriculture to disasters to nuclear technology.

The effect of the service remains to be assessed. It is difficult to determine why people buy newspapers, he said. Mr. Laing commented that a 3,000 word story on leprosy was printed in its entirety. Normally, he said, such a long article would be pared down. He never knew if the article was being used on its own merit or "through madness on the part of the editor".

He noted that a readership survey was necessary. He knew the articles were read by the elite — the scientists and development workers. But he doubted

if the people at the bottom could buy newspapers.

The service continues to thrive under the management of a young Philippino journalist hired to take over after Mr. Laing's departure.

NEW PUBLICATION

NEW JOURNAL ON THIRD WORLD PUBLISHED BY OISE

A new journal of writings relating to the Third World is being published three times a year by the department of sociology and education at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE) in Toronto.

"Two Thirds," subtitled a journal of underdevelopment studies, aims at presenting interpretations of social reality from the perspective of the peoples of the underdeveloped world.

Its articles cross all disciplines, avoiding a narrow preoccupation with only economic, political or cultural aspects. Authors submit material in their own languages. Translation into English for the journal is contributed on a voluntary basis by graduate students and professors from various parts of the world who study or teach at Toronto universities.

Articles relating to the debate over modes of production and dependency in Latin America—a debate to which English readers have had little access—appeared in the first issue of the journal. The second issue presents some economic analyses of resource accumulation and exploitation in the Third World and the third issue is devoted to the position of women in underdeveloped countries.

A feature of each issue is an indepth interview with a major spokesman of the developing world. René Zabaleta Mercado, the Bolivian sociologist who is director of the Mexican Centre of the Latin American Faculty of Social Science, is the subject in the first issue. Translations of contemporary folk songs, stories and poetry from the popular cultures also appear.

"Two Thirds" offers annual subscriptions at \$7.00 in Canada and \$8.00 outside Canada. Persons wishing to subscribe should write to Two Thirds, Department of Sociology, O.I.S.E., 252 Bloor Street West, Toronto, M5S 1V6.

CIDA

CIDA PRESIDENT VISITS HAITIAN PROJECTS



This primary school under construction at Olivier, was among the CIDA-sponsored projects in Haiti visited by Michel Dupuy. CIDA photo: Yvan Roy

A strengthening of the ties of co-operation between Haiti and Canada resulted from a recent visit to Haiti by Michel Dupuy, CIDA's President. During meetings with Haitian government officials, Mr. Dupuy indicated that Canada expected to expand its assistance to Haiti in the fields of transport, energy, education, health, agriculture and rural development.

During Mr. Dupuy's visit, Haiti's President, Jean-Claude Duvalier, detailed his government's priorities for the country's development. He stressed the satisfaction of his people and his government with Canada's co-operation and respect for human development.

At a reception hosted by Canadian officials, Mr. Dupuy spoke of the mutual co-operation between the two countries. "There are no countries that give," he said, "and there are none that receive. There are only the common objectives that must be pursued using common political instruments. With this principle in mind, the governments of Canada and Haiti signed their co-operation agreement in 1973."

Mr. Dupuy visited Canada's largest project in Haiti, the integrated rural development (DRIPP) program in the Petit-Goâve-Petit Trou de Nippes region. Canada will spend \$20 million over five years on the program to improve agriculture and food production as well as touching all aspects of daily living from a better drinking water



This DRIPP sponsored fruit trees nursery will help to increase Haiti's food supply and serve local reforestation needs. CIDA photo: Yvan Roy

supply to improved education and better nutrition.

Fruitful working sessions were held at the ministry of planning, presided over by Dr. Raoul Berret, minister of planning. Officials from the ministries of public works, commerce and industry, and transport detailed the achievements made under co-operation agreements.

Mr. Dupuy also met with officials from the ministries of finance, agriculture, national education, and health as well as the Canadian ambassador and several Canadian advisers working in Haiti.

He had a helicopter view of some highway projects, and visited a hydroelectric project, the School of Administration and International Studies, the professional training centre, projects at Cayes and Jacmel, the rural development centre at Cap Haitien, and the faculty of agronomy and veterinary medicine.

Mr. Dupuy was accompanied on the Haitian visit by his executive assistant, Robert Elliott, the acting director-general of the Americas at CIDA, Pierre Tanguay, and CIDA's Director of Public Affairs, Yvan Roy.

UN PROGRAMS

LOANS TO POOREST COUNTRIES CONVERTED TO GRANTS



FAO photo: S. Sarr

Eleven major creditor nations have announced plans to convert (US) \$6.2 billion in loans, owed to them by the world's poorest countries, into grants.

Of the eleven, Canada and Sweden have already taken action. Canada has cancelled \$254 million in such debts. Sweden has cancelled \$200 million worth of debts owed by eight countries.

Savings in debt servicing costs for the \$6.2 billion represents some \$300 million a year for the next two decades.

According to UNCTAD, the largest write-offs came from West Germany, Britain and Japan.

West Germany announced its willingness to adjust the terms of past bilateral loans to the least developed countries and convert them into grants. The amount involved is \$2.3 billion.

Britain is taking steps in respect of 17 countries. The total debt by them is \$1.87 billion.

Japan will provide untied grants to 11 countries in amounts equivalent to the payment of capital and interest due from 1978 onwards.

Belgium has cancelled the interest on past loans to three countries and is re-financing 75 per cent of the debt services on past loans to two others.

Denmark is establishing contracts in the context of its declared readiness to cancel repayments on official develop-

ment loans to several have-not countries.

Finland has cancelled all outstanding development credits worth \$42 million.

The Netherlands has cancelled all debts owed by five nations totalling \$133 million. It will offer similar opportunities to others.

Switzerland has converted \$106 million loans into grants.

When UNCTAD made this announcement in Geneva last November, France and the United States had not yet announced their decisions on loan adjustments. The U.S. Congress has authorized the Carter Administration to proceed with adjustments in bilateral assistance, but the amount this may involve has not yet been made public.

There are 29 "least developed countries" and an additional 16 "low-income per capita countries" which are covered by this program. The creditor nations are committed through UNCTAD "to seek to adopt adjustment measures on the official development assistance debt of poorer developing countries."

1979 UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PLEDGES



Voluntary pledges for 1979 development activities marked a 15 per cent increase over the last year but there were fears that in real terms there might be only a modest net gain.

This was the first time that governments pledged (Nov. 7-8) towards 14 UN funds and programs at a single conference. The total brought in the equivalent of US \$770 million. Well over \$100 million in additional funds is expected from 36 countries, including Canada.

The seven largest contributors were the United States, the Netherlands, Sweden, Denmark, the United Kingdom, Germany and Norway.

96 countries pledged \$581.3 million towards UNDP, including Canada's pledge of \$41 million;

29 countries pledged \$24.8 million to the UN Capital Development Fund;

11 countries promised \$28,000 to the UN Special Fund for Land-Locked Developing countries;

Seven governments announced their commitment of \$562,000 for the United Nations Volunteers program, \$150,000 of which was pledged by Canada;

62 countries pledged \$10.3 million to the UN Industrial Development Fund;

74 governments promised \$112.2 million to the general activities fund for UNICEF, including \$8 million from Canada. Belgium, the Federal Republic of Germany and Switzerland also pledged \$12.9 million to special UNICEF projects. UNICEF, which is co-ordinating the UN efforts for the International Year of the Child, also received pledges amounting to \$113,775 to offset the administrative costs for the IYC Secretariat. Besides this, a total of \$3.1 million was pledged to IYC activities.

\$2.9 million was pledged to the Voluntary Fund for the UN Decade for Women, and \$13,000 was collected for the UN International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women.

The pledging conference showed that since 1972, 12 governments of developing countries have become net UNDP contributors.

The UNICEF total of \$112.2 million is expected to reach well over \$200 million by the time governmental pledges are augmented by contributions from the general public.

The UNDP, formed in 1966, is the world's largest multilateral technical co-operation program through which governments channel contributions for economic and social development.

The UN Capital Development Fund underwrites community self-help projects that directly benefit the lowest income groups in the poorest countries.

The UNDP says that only a 14 per cent annual increase in voluntary contributions will enable it to fulfill its commitments.



THE ROLE OF CANADIAN UNIVERSITIES IN DEVELOPMENT

by Roy LaBerge

The next decade will provide Canadian universities with an unprecedented opportunity for sharing with universities in developing countries, but whether that sharing will take place depends upon many factors, among them the availability of funds and the direction of federal and provincial government policies.

Canadian universities' involvement with and concern for the Third World are not new. Their programs of studies have always included education in the history, culture and in some instances the languages of the countries now considered part of the developing world. Universities saw this as part of their total function arising from the traditional definition of a university as a "universal city".

As the report of a liaison committee on international development of CIDA, the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC) and the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) points out:

"The vast majority of Canadians who play policy roles in External Affairs, in CIDA and in other departments of the Government of Canada concerned with international development, received their basic understanding of the Third World through their university studies."

After the Second World War, involvement moved from academic study on Canadian campuses to direct participation by Canadian academics in projects on Third World campuses.

What is new is a growing understanding in the late 1970s of the need for Canadian universities to work together to meet the changing needs of universities in developing countries where work-study has become the pattern.

In the 1950s and 1960s many developing countries sent their potential leaders to Canadian campuses because they did not have the post-secondary institutions needed to educate them. However, the results were far from satisfactory in many cases. One unforeseen result was an exten-

sive "brain drain" from the developing countries.

Developing countries have since established their own post-secondary institutions, but their orientation is on domestic socio-economic development needs. In most cases, students are admitted only if their training is related directly to the development of their own country.

An impelling reason Canadian institutions need to work together is to avoid the situation, which has occurred in the past, in which Third World universities were competing with one another to obtain "desired" faculty and other resources from Canadian campuses.

Canadian universities have great appeal to educators in developing countries, particularly those in Africa, according to Fraser Taylor, co-ordinator of development studies in Carleton University's Norman Paterson School of International Affairs in Ottawa.

"We're in a unique situation in that our universities are a melange of the British, French and American systems," he points out. Canadian universities have neither the "classic rigidities" that exist in part of France, the "ivory

tower attitudes" of some British universities, nor some of the "excesses in the other direction," of some American institutions, he maintains.

Canadian institutions are of particular interest to African countries because they exist in a country of both French and English-speaking people.

In West Africa, former French and British colonies exist side by side, and need to bridge the gap left by their different languages and colonial traditions. And one of them, Cameroon, is made up of both a former French and a former British colony, with problems of bilingual education similar to those in Canada.

"Canada doesn't have a colonial past," Dr. Taylor points out. "It doesn't have an image of an imperial power in any real sense and therefore is more acceptable than many countries."

Canadian universities' direct involvement in the Third World was stimulated in the 1950s by the Colombo Plan. It began as occasional postings of Canadian university faculty members in developing nations, on a university-to-university basis.

Later, as CIDA entered the picture, it sought out and recruited Canadians and sent them to particular postings abroad.

During the 1960s there were also several joint agreements under which Canadian universities would contract with individual universities and governments in the Third World for particular projects. Under some agreements foreign students would come to Canada for study and in others there would be exchanges of professors and students.

Dr. Taylor is one of several Canadian academics who are somewhat critical of some CIDA placements of foreign students in Canada and contends that the universities could do the job better themselves.

"Occasionally students were sent to universities that did not have the expertise or specialization the students were looking for," he says.

It is to help ensure that this no longer happens, and also to help ensure that Canadian participation meets real needs of developing lands that CIDA and the IDRC are jointly sponsoring a new international development office of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC). The office initially will serve mainly as an information clearing house between the universities and Canadian and foreign agencies in international development.

One of the office's first tasks will be to find out exactly what Canadian universities now are doing in the field of development.

That may not be an easy task.

Norma Walmsley, then a professor at University of Ottawa, found that out in 1970 when she prepared a report on Canadian university resources for international assistance and co-operation. The report was prepared for CIDA on behalf of the AUCC.

The report states, "In most instances, recorded facts and figures essential to document this study did not exist in readily accessible form at the universities."

Prof. Walmsley's report found a need for consideration of international co-operation "as a concept calling for a comprehensive and integrative approach."

"If this need was very evident at the individual campus level, it was even more so at the collective 'academic community' level," the report states.

The new AUCC office may help meet that need — if it is given the resources to do the job.

Participation of universities in development grew considerably during the 1970s. In a 1977 survey by the AUCC, 25 Canadian institutions reported 99 programs involving Third World institutions, 49 sponsored by CIDA, nine by IDRC and seven by other departments or agencies of the Canadian government.

The University of British Columbia (UBC) has sent faculty members to the University of Malaya in Malaysia for the last five years to expand courses in accounting offered there, and annually accepts 10 Malaysian students for graduate work in Vancouver. UBC is also developing a plan for the regional development of the Island of Sulawesi in Indonesia, and has also reached an agreement with the Catholic University of Ecuador to exchange faculty and students in the field of teacher training for elementary education. Both these programs received CIDA funds. UBC is also helping develop the curriculum of an undergraduate program in pharmacy at the University of Nairobi in Kenya. This program was initiated at a conference of presidents of African universities held in Ottawa under AUCC auspices.

The University of Waterloo has helped four universities in northeastern Brazil with computer education and the development of a computer centre. Waterloo has helped develop graduate engineering programs at Brazil's Federal University of Paraíba. Waterloo

has also developed teacher exchanges with universities in Colombia in dentistry, in Ghana in economic development, in Barbados and in Guyana in education and teacher training. All these programs received funds from CIDA.

Dalhousie University sends 10 to 12 Canadians to teach in Ghana every year under a CIDA-funded program reached through an agreement with the Ghana ministry of economic planning and related ministries.

Queen's University at Kingston has sent teachers to the Dominican Republic to train health personnel at the Pedro Hendriques Urena national university (UNPHU) for a program of health-care delivery to under-privileged families throughout the republic. Professors from Queen's are also advising in the development of the university's biomedical institute. This program is financed by private Canadian funds to Queen's together with funds from UNPHU and the Dominican government.

The University of Saskatchewan in the past has sent professors to Uganda and taught graduate students in Canada in a CIDA-funded program aimed at upgrading the animal science department of Makerere University.

The University of Toronto has sent faculty members to train personnel in computer science at universities in northeast Brazil. Brazilian staff have also studied in Toronto under the program. University of Toronto has also helped the University of Havana develop a self-sufficient engineering program at the master's level. All these programs were assisted by CIDA funds.

Université Laval, which has had a centre for research and international development for several years is undertaking joint projects with Third World universities involving training in agronomy and veterinary science in Morocco and business administration in Peru.

The University of Manitoba has programs involving exchanges of students and faculty in agriculture and food sciences with the University of Chile assisted by Agriculture Canada, the National Research Council and the IDRC.

The departments of chemistry of McGill University and the University of Nigeria at Ksukka are co-operating in programs of mutual assistance. A McGill administrator spent three months in Kuwait advising on university structure.

Under a three-year agreement, the University of New Brunswick is sending teachers to staff the Kenya Technical Teachers Colleges, and is bringing Kenyan students to Canada for degree programs in administration and teacher training. The program is jointly funded by Canada and Kenya with 60 per cent of the funds coming from CIDA.

Université du Québec is helping to train engineers, statisticians and economists for Morocco's National Institute of statistics and applied economics.

Since 1950, St. Francis-Xavier University in Antigonish, Nova Scotia, has provided an eight-month program in social leadership with emphasis on community extension programs and co-operatives, now offered under the umbrella of its famed Coady International Institute.

Memorial University in Newfoundland has provided summer courses in fisheries co-operatives to students from Africa, Asia and the Caribbean, and the University of Ottawa's Institute for International Co-operation has, for several years, conducted a two-year program in development administration.

Wilfrid Laurier University has conducted nine-month programs in international business and 13-week summer courses in export promotion for foreign students.

The University of Guelph in Ontario has trained Third World people to become extension specialists in honey and beeswax production, and the University of Manitoba has offered six-week courses in agricultural development, co-operatives, marketing institutions and agricultural policy.

Carleton University has had a development program in its Norman Paterson School of International Affairs since its founding in 1965, and has built up formal exchanges of professors and students with universities in Nigeria and Tanzania.

York University recently established a centre for Latin American studies.

Dalhousie University also has an international studies centre. One of the more interesting long-term projects still under way is the Ghana-Guelph program. This Ontario university is helping the University of Ghana to become self-sufficient in five departments — animal science, crop science, nutrition and food science, home science and extension.

Guelph has been sending faculty members to Ghana, teaching students from Ghana on its own campus, and offering research fellowships to Ghanaian professors to spend periods

of research and professional development at Guelph.

Under the project, which is supported by CIDA, the Ontario institution also provides the University of Ghana with research equipment and books and journals to strengthen its library holdings.

Many Canadian educators, including Dr. Taylor, see this as a model project because the two universities share decision-making.

So far, of the 40 students from Ghana in the project, 15 have returned to staff positions at their home university, one has joined the staff of Ghana's University of Science and Technology, one has joined Ghana's ministry of education and six have joined the ministry of agriculture.

This list of activities of Canadian universities is far from complete, but it does indicate that at least some of their people are — and have been — active and concerned.

One obstacle that must be removed if Canadian universities are to achieve the development potential the 1980s offer them is the prevalent attitude in Canada that this kind of activity is a question of Canadians "giving" to scholars from other countries.

Such projects are not gifts, but two-way exchanges of resources, of knowledge and even of money. **DD**

Roy LaBerge, a veteran journalist, now teaches social science at Algonquin College in Ottawa.

UNIVERSITY INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICE FOUNDED IN OTTAWA

The International Development Office will be a "contact point, not another level of bureaucracy", according to its first director, Michael Oliver, past president of Carleton University.

He sees its role as bringing people together "to help match university needs in the Third World with Canadian university resources for international development".

The office, to be located at AUCC headquarters in Ottawa, is sponsored by CIDA, the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada (AUCC). The three bodies have been associated since March 1977, in a liaison committee for international development. The com-



Michael Oliver

mittee will continue as a policy body to which Dr. Oliver will report as director of the International Development Office.

Dr. Oliver says that Canadian universities have made considerable contributions to international development, in part under contracts with CIDA and the IDRC. He hopes, however that linkages directly between universities in Canada and developing countries will become a more important part of Canadian participation.

He is looking forward to developing such linkages at the working level "involving secondment of Canadian university staff and Canadian universities helping with staff development in Third World universities".

He also hopes this will lead to the development of joint research projects.

He sees his office increasing the role of Canadian universities in international development and improving their relations with CIDA and IDRC.

The office is funded jointly by CIDA and IDRC and its terms of reference have been agreed to by both organizations as well as by the AUCC.

The office's first task he says, is to tackle the "information" question — "finding out about the resources that Canadian universities can make available to CIDA and IDRC and to universities overseas and then finding out the needs of Third World universities".

"The next task is the clearing house function — helping to match the resources of Canadian universities with the needs of overseas institutions." **DD**



CIDA'S EDUCATION PROGRAMS IN THE THIRD WORLD

by Candace Carr-Harris

CIDA's primary task in providing development assistance in the field of education is to ensure that people in the Third World will have the required skills and knowledge to handle their development problems.

Assistance from donor countries to the Third World in the area of formal education systems — schools and teachers — is diminishing because many developing countries are working out more appropriate systems to match their limited financial resources.

However, CIDA has remained involved to a certain extent in formal educational projects. Only last year, the Kumasi Technical Institute was officially opened in Ghana. (see DD, Oct.

'78). CIDA partially funded the institute with a grant of \$6.5 million.

Although formal educational projects help meet the learning needs of the youth in developing countries, providing basic educational skills for the working adults is a problem not solved through formal schooling.

Estimates indicate that by 1980, while 230 million children between the ages of five and 14 will not be enrolled in school, illiterate adults will number more than 820 million.

Adult illiteracy poses special problems. It is impossible to send 800 million working adults to school for several years so educational programs must be brought to them.

Canada is participating in several adult literacy projects in developing countries using sophisticated audio-visual techniques to teach basic skills.

In the mountainous Bahia region of Brazil, television communication is impractical, so a unique concept called "radio-vision" was devised. Radio teaching programs which are less costly and more easily broadcast to certain areas than television have been combined with the distribution of complementary visual materials — slides, posters, and printed texts.

Another functional literacy project in Bogota, Colombia combines radio broadcasting to rural village workers with home libraries, tape recordings, posters and photographs as visual supports.

The concept of combining literacy instruction with other work-related teaching lies at the heart of a project in Mali directed at cotton growers which allows participants to combine their normal working lives with obtaining a basic education.

Information is provided by local cotton-processing companies on such topics as the use of fertilizers, the best harvesting techniques, and new methods of post-harvest storage. This is put into an audio-visual format to teach literacy and numeracy skills.

During the three-year project, 762 teaching centres were opened in 43 education zones for an audience of 15,000 Malians. CIDA's contribution of \$2.2 million was used for technical assistance, equipment, teaching materials and training Malians as teachers.

Some of CIDA's most productive education programs have been the smaller non-formal training programs that complement larger projects being provided by other sectors.

New technology demands new techniques which must be taught to people in the recipient country. Machines must be repaired, systems must be maintained, and it is through trainer education that the mechanisms CIDA is asked to provide can be handled properly by the recipient country decades after the project leaders have left.

An example of this is the locomotive technician training program that complements the CIDA-assisted Bangladesh railway reconstruction of the past few years. (See news feature in DD Aug./Sept. '78.)

Similarly, a training program for electrical linemen was requested by Bangladesh to maintain the communications equipment supplied in part by CIDA. This project began with a training program set up in New Brunswick by CIDA with the technical assistance of the New Brunswick Electrical Power Commission.

Selected teacher-trainees were brought to Canada from Bangladesh where they covered the major aspects of the standard four-year lineman's course during their nine-month stay. On their return to Bangladesh, four regional training centres were set up to teach other linemen.

Another example of a non-education project which developed a large education component is the enlarging and rebuilding of the port and port facilities at Douala, Cameroon. In addition to helping fund harbor-dredging and renovation of port buildings, CIDA was asked to set up a training program for all port administrative personnel.

It is because of the success of projects like these that CIDA education specialists contend that every CIDA project should contain its own education component.

CIDA's education programs are undergoing a reassessment, as has the agency's entire aid policy during the past few years. In an area as important as education, only constant re-evaluation will ensure that CIDA is providing the assistance that meets recipient country needs and draws upon the resources Canada is best equipped to offer. **DD**

Candace Carr-Harris is a free-lance writer, who has worked for the Public Affairs Division of CIDA.

CIDA'S BRIEFING CENTRE

by **Daniel Fontigny**

Before the establishment of CIDA's Briefing Centre, preparation of Canadians going on overseas assignments under CIDA auspices was of a rather limited nature: the "co-operants" often had only one short meeting with a CIDA project officer and received some documentation on the host country.

The other main briefing method was for the future co-operant to consult a Canadian who had spent some time in that country or talk to someone from the Third World country in question living in Canada.

All this changed with the establishment of the Briefing Centre in 1969. A study by King Gordon, then a professor at University of Ottawa, was instrumental in its founding.

Professor Gordon's report outlined the rationale for establishing a "briefing centre." The centre's main aims, are: to prepare co-operants so that they can better adjust to a specific Third World environment; to help them establish contact with future colleagues at both CIDA headquarters and in the Third World; to facilitate understanding of the main objectives of socio-economic development in the country of assignment; and finally, to show the co-operants how to communicate their technical and professional knowledge to Third World associates while on assignment.

In addition, the staff of the Briefing Centre now participates — in collaboration with CIDA's Human Resources Division — in the selection of CIDA sponsored co-operants.

It is also the centre's responsibility to work with other CIDA divisions in formulating policies and planning, particularly in relation to developing teamwork in an intercultural context. Finally, it is the Briefing Centre's task to organize debriefing sessions so that as much information as possible can be gathered from returning co-operants about their assignment experiences so it can be passed on to other Canadians going on similar assignments.

In its nine years of operation, the Briefing Centre has changed in order to better fulfill its mandate. It started out in 1969 by merely communicating information through the traditional means of lectures, films and printed information.

By 1971, however, it was realized that the centre's approach was falling short of its objectives in adequately preparing co-operants to go overseas to developing countries. Because the centre was primarily concerned with transmitting information about a particular country, the individual Canadian's prejudices, values and expectations which could lead to problems in a Third World culture were not being taken into account.

It was therefore decided that, in order to be more effective, the program should give greater emphasis to family and community relationships.

Accordingly, prospective co-operants were placed in hypothetical situations to experience the kinds of problems they would likely encounter on their assignments in the Third World. The Briefing Centre staff would then analyse these situations and examine their own reactions. The centre in this period stressed behavior modification: the first seven days of the briefing period were devoted to it, while information briefing was reserved for the last three days.

Although the new approach seemed to be effective, it nevertheless was subject to criticism. Some felt that "modification" of behavior was a violation of privacy, while others thought it was impossible to change attitudes and behavior in a short period of time. There were also those who believed the philosophy was not applicable to the briefing of co-operants.

Instead, communication skills, sensitivity, ability to listen, feedback, and the effect of all these on the intercultural situation were stressed. This enabled the program directors to respect the privacy of the participants' personal lives and eliminate the sensitivity training that wounded many egos.

Also, attention was given to improving the program's quality and to coordinating the various components. With professional group leaders and staff training in group dynamics, a learning environment was fostered in which both training staff and co-operants would pursue, albeit in different roles, the common goal of preparing for a new life in a foreign country.

Current programs for co-operants at the Briefing Centre combine information transfer and behavior modification, stressing individual differences in methods of learning and in needs. **DD**

Daniel Fontigny is editor of Directions du Développement



Each year hundreds of thousands of Canadians participate in a joint NGO effort, Metres for Millions. CIDA photo.

DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION IN CANADA: A GRASSROOTS MOVEMENT

by Roger Levett

Canadians are not concerned with international development — or so it might seem at first glance. The upcoming election, the economy, the state of the dollar and the weekend weather are all closer to the hearts of Canadians. However, this situation is changing and though the process is a slow one, the results are likely to be lasting. Most of the growing development education activity is at the grassroots level.

This movement is taking place in church basements, classrooms and community centres across Canada. Even more encouraging is the fact that the private sector, not the government, is providing the impetus.

The churches have always been involved in international development and their interest remains constant in the task of mounting a domestic education program on Third World issues. However, other groups are also active, such as the Red Cross, teacher federations, the YM/YWCA, universities, community groups, service clubs and a variety of other associations of concerned adults and children.

Development education is, for the most part, a phenomenon of the '70s, but already a great many people from every part of Canadian society have a more complete understanding of what international development entails. And with this understanding comes support.

Last year those non-government organizations (NGOs) receiving CIDA financial support spent more than \$4 million on development education programs and the Canadian government, through CIDA, added almost \$2 million. This money supported nearly 150 education projects with the majority carried out at the community level.

The churches have perhaps the longest history of involvement in development and development education. While it would be impossible to cover all their accomplishments in this field,

one project in particular provides a good example.

Ten Days for World Development began in 1973 as a project "to bring about changes in Canadian policy which will broaden the opportunities for human growth, especially by people of developing countries." The churches behind this program are the United, Presbyterian, Lutheran, Roman Catholic and Anglican.

Although the stated goals of Ten Days for World Development seem far-reaching and unattainable, their results nevertheless have been down to earth and impressive. They have set themselves the task of "clearly demonstrating positive public opinion to policy makers".

History will ultimately be the judge of their success but already one can easily see the degree of their effort and the extent of their reach.

The Ten Days for World Development campaign appropriately coincides with Lent. During their 10-day campaign, the Ten Days group provided "leader kits" to 15,000 clergy and lay leaders; 250,000 copies (by request) of their tabloid newspaper; 15,000 pew leaflets; 500 photo stories to Canadian

weekly newspapers; and reached uncounted viewing and listening audiences through radio and television interviews with Ten Days resource people. This exposure does not include numerous speaking engagements, workshops and conferences.

Five provincial governments — Quebec, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, and British Columbia — have also been instrumental in the growth of development education. The current fiscal-year commitment for these provinces in the field of development education is more than \$5 million. These provinces provide matching funds through their respective provincial councils, with the exception of British Columbia which funds projects through its agricultural aid fund.

Alberta is also an exception in that all funds go to overseas projects. However, this funding frees other money for development education. Though Ontario has a provincial council, it neither receives nor administers any provincial government funds.

All councils are currently operating on a matching grant formula or are in the process of trying to convince the provincial government to provide such funding.

During 1977 and 1978 the Alberta Council for International Cooperation (ACIC) funded and helped co-ordinate 18 projects at a total cost of almost \$300,000 with CIDA providing almost \$100,000 of the total.

Development education activity however is only a part of the provincial councils' programs. Last year the total budget for the Alberta Council was slightly more than \$3.7 million in support of 36 NGOs for 201 projects in 62 developing countries.

The North-South Institute was established in 1976 to provide information through research on world development generally and Canadian aid policies and programs specifically. The Ottawa-based institute issues public reports on international aid while also acting as a non-government watchdog on CIDA activities. (See DD, May '78)

These reports also provide expert opinion on where foreign aid should be directed. Furthermore, it is the aim of the institute to encourage other institutions to conduct research in this field and help develop an awareness and national dialogue on the subject.

Another group providing research oriented projects in development education is Inter Pares an NGO dedicated to "the promotion of understanding of the causes, effects and alleviation of underdevelopment and poverty."

This group is currently developing audio-visual kits to assist students researching cultural and economic environments of selected Third World countries. The project also includes — among other things — a teacher education booklet which will involve the co-operation of teachers across Canada, education personnel and consultants.

Development education in the classroom exists in some schools as part of the formal curriculum or in the form of a special project, such as the World Interchange Project (WIP) carried out by grade eight students at McDougall School in Parry Sound, Ontario.

The objective of the project was to promote greater understanding, by Canadian school children, of international development, through exchange of information with Third World counterparts.

Although some teachers at the school assisted in the project, the majority of the work was directed and carried out by the students. The project resulted in the exchange of nearly 100 homemade kits with schools from all over the world. The kits contained artifacts representing the cultural and social tradition of the community. The children of Parry Sound sent, among numerous items, a Canadian maple leaf, hand-crafted Ojibway Indian necklaces, and a photograph of hockey player Bobby Orr.

In return, they received kits containing Colombian dolls, handcarved Thai wooden toys and Japanese newspapers.

The project began in 1976 and not only have subsequent classes carried on with the many different aspects of the program, but the 1978 Global Village Conference also developed from the WIP project and the grade eight students at McDougall School.

The traditional community groups such as the YM/YWCA are also involved in development education projects like the current "Y" men's Canada-Caribbean exchange.

The Ontario-Quebec "Y" men's club recently held a Regional Convention at Geneva Park, near Orillia, Ontario to educate delegates in the problems of developing nations and develop co-operative service projects between Caribbean and Canadian YMCAs. Delegates from six Caribbean countries visited the host Canadians and toured Eastern Canada, while Canadian visits will include Jamaica and Trinidad-Tobago to conduct leadership training sessions.

While only 300 YMCA men and wives will attend the convention more than 1,000 have been involved in the development of the program.

Programs at the community level are perhaps the most important part of developing an awareness among Canadians of the problems of the Third World. The Camrose, Alberta "One World Centre" is a small but active group dedicated to development education.

Initially the centre grew from a church group in Camrose early in 1977, but developed into a group that today also has representation from business, agriculture and education as well as churches.

The group provides a resource centre and reading room with development publications, films, slides, tapes, education kits and a referral system for people from other countries living in the area.

The Camrose group also provides a speakers bureau, various programs for all levels of education, newspaper column and film series.

The centre is dedicated to furthering the understanding of development problems of the Third World and supporting funding for what they consider appropriate aid projects in developing countries. Funding for the centre is provided by ACIC, CIDA, local congregations, businesses, service clubs, and individuals.

Regional breakdown of CIDA supported public participation projects

National Programs

33 projects
total cost \$4,643,071

The Maritimes

4 projects
total cost \$102,428

Quebec

23 projects
total cost \$1,100,000

Ontario

22 projects
total cost \$807,508

The Prairies

53 projects
total cost \$735,629

British Columbia

9 projects
total cost \$303,454

(total cost includes federal and provincial funding)

DD

Roger Levett is a CIDA information officer specializing in Commonwealth Africa.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN DEVELOPMENT BY FRANCOPHONE ORGANIZATIONS

by Daniel Moisan

In its efforts to reach the greatest possible number of Canadians, CIDA co-operates with many non-governmental organizations (NGOs) across Canada, including many French-speaking groups located mainly in Quebec.

Among the groups centred in Quebec, some carry out projects on a nationwide basis, while others, having deep rooted connections with local communities, design projects on a regional basis.

"Operation Minta" has been in existence for nine years in St. Bruno, a community of 22,000 a few miles from Montreal. The program was set up by Father Lucien Foucreault, the parish priest, when he returned from a lengthy stay in Cameroon. Many of the town's French- and English-speaking inhabitants took part in the events such as walk-a-thons and hunger suppers.

After the municipal authorities became involved, the decision was made to twin the town with the community of Minta in Cameroon in order to establish more direct and personal links with the inhabitants of a developing country.

CIDA first awarded a grant to "Operation Minta" in 1976-1977. At that time the group collected three times more than the amount of CIDA's contribution from the people of St. Bruno.

"Promotion Minta 1977-1978" gave rise in particular to the consolidation of the links between St. Bruno and Minta, which was marked by the visit of two representatives from the Cameroon Embassy. About 1,800 school children participated in a poster contest after viewing a slide show about the life of a Minta child.

The United Towns Organizations, Development and Peace and the Service Mission-Développement of St. Jean diocese also played a role. CIDA contributed approximately one third of the total 1977-1978 budget of \$45,600.

A similar public participation project, "Christians in a rural environment," involves about 15 parishes in Nicolet, Arthabaska, Yamaska and Drummond counties on the South Shore of the St. Lawrence.

The movement grew out of an exchange of farmers. In June 1975 two people from Upper Volta stayed with Nicolet farmers to learn about their agricultural methods. At that time "Christians in a rural environment," along with Development and Peace, took part in a number of activities designed to aid the inhabitants of Toma, a community in Upper Volta. Their financial contribution was used, among other things, to purchase smallpox vaccine, millet, cattle, ploughs, and to drill 10 wells and build warehouses.

Exchanging correspondence and educational texts and twinning families are now the key components of the project, which relies on 160 volunteers and gathers its funds from walk-a-thons, hunger suppers and collections. About 2,000 primary and secondary school children from the Port Royal School Commission are deeply involved in these activities.

In September 1978, five people from Upper Volta came to Quebec to learn about regional teaching activities. The group received co-operation from municipal councils, credit unions, churches and many other local organizations and has been awarded a \$14,300 matching grant by CIDA for the 1977-1979 period.

The Carrefour de solidarité internationale, with its headquarters in Sherbrooke, comprises 16 non-governmental organizations in the Eastern Townships involved in public participation activities to sensitize the public to Third World issues.

The group intends both to inform and to educate the public. In order to fulfil their information role, the various organizations in turn or collectively put on "starve-a-thons," walk-a-thons, conferences, and public education days in a number of communities.

The 16 organizations can count on a high rate of participation, since these activities are planned jointly and the volunteers from each body often reach different sectors of the population. An estimated 20,000 persons are contacted directly, and thousands more pick up the Carrefour's message through discussions or the news media.

The Carrefour offers its support and resources to groups wishing to engage in development assistance activities and attempts to put Canadian groups in contact with others in the Third World. It hopes to develop "a national awareness of the need for a new international economic order." CIDA has given it a matching grant of \$55,000. Its members include Development and

Peace, Service Mond'Ami, SUCO (Sherbrooke), the Clubs Jeunes du Monde and various other organizations working in international co-operation.

The Crossroads International Students Centre was created in 1974. The centre engages in a range of public education projects. It made a considerable contribution to the work of the Canadian Commission of Inquiry into Human Rights in Chile in October 1977, participated in the "international days for a society overcoming domination," instituted by the National Conference of Brazilian Bishops.

The centre has a well-stocked documentation centre and an audio-visual bank at its disposal. It maintains continuous relations with ethnic communities in Canada and can therefore make available resource persons to interested groups. In 1977-1978, CIDA allocated \$38,000 to the Crossroads International Students Centre.

"Plan Nagua" of Quebec City is another worthwhile public education venture. In 10 years it has invested more than \$700,000 in development projects in the Dominican Republic.

During the past year, the organization's volunteers have covered almost the entire Quebec City area visiting shopping centres, churches, and community groups to encourage people to collect and donate waste paper, including newspapers, bags, boxes and used notebooks. The paper is then sold to recycling firms. This provides a considerable amount of revenue for investment in the projects supported by Plan Nagua.

Sensitization workshops, telephone communications, audio-visual material, and written documents supplement these endeavors, which are directed in particular towards students, workers and unions. In 1977-1978 CIDA contributed \$5,000 to their "recycling for brotherhood" campaign.

Jeunesse du Monde, the Confederation of National Trade Unions, the Red Cross, the Conseil de la coopération du Québec, the Carrefour Tiers-Monde, the CEQ (Quebec Teachers Federation) and the Association québécoise pour l'avancement des Nations unies are but a few of the many other organizations which have organized public education programs for francophones, primarily in Quebec. **DD**

Daniel Moisan is a free lance writer living in Montreal. He is a former French-language editor of CIDA's quarterly NGO tabloid, Action.

ECO- DEVELOPMENT ECO- MANAGEMENT

by Marc-André Fredette

The pursuit of eco-development strategies raises numerous administrative and institutional questions. First, diverging interests between individuals and the many organizations comprising a community must be reconciled. Secondly, a compromise must be found between the priorities of the community and those of its environment.

Those are the basic principles for the management of "man-environment" systems, as formulated by Michel Chevalier and Thomas Burns in a background document prepared for the third environment-development workshop jointly sponsored by CIDA and Environment Canada.

The document argues that the tendency towards excessive centralization and specialization of governmental institutions is one of the major causes of the ecological, social and economic evils affecting Canada today. The resulting distortion in the allocation of physical and human resources makes the governmental apparatus less and less capable of coping with the complex problems of managing society.

It is undeniable that the institutional structure has considerable influence on the behavior of those who are responsible for it. Both the isolation of disciplines in the field of education and the sectoral organization of governments contradict the need for a global and multidisciplinary approach enabling one to grasp fully the management problems of a society faced with issues of unprecedented complexity.

If the concept of eco-development is to go beyond the stage of intentions and declarations, it is crucial to translate it concretely into management processes. In the particular context of international co-operation, this raises many new questions for which we shall have to find innovative answers.

It is precisely to respond to this need that the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), a non-profit foundation working for the United Nations and numerous national and international organizations, recently undertook a comparative study of the development aid programs of six countries, including Canada, as well as



the Federal Republic of Germany, the Netherlands, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States.

Besides increasing the awareness of environmental issues in international co-operation circles, one of the major objectives of the study is to analyze how the environmental dimension is taken into consideration in elaborating, planning and implementing international development aid projects and, if necessary, to make recommendations for future improvement.

To do so, the IIED has the collaboration of a research team in each country involved. In the case of Canada, the co-ordination of the study is the joint responsibility of the North-South Institute, a private research organization concerned with the relations between industrialized and developing countries, and the Institute for Resource and Environment Studies at Dalhousie University, a research and training centre on the management of the environment and natural resources.

The mandate given to the Canadian study team specifies that the team must demonstrate concretely that all development projects have an impact on the environment and that the environment must be considered as a basic parameter in the search for alternative development models.

The study will also seek to identify the mechanisms whereby the environmental dimension can be integrated into the planning and implementation of bilateral projects, using examples applicable to CIDA.

Furthermore, priority domains of intervention will have to be identified for bilateral programs, so as to ensure that the latter contribute to maintaining the long-term quality of the environment in recipient countries.

Finally, the team will have to provide CIDA with recommendations regarding the steps that the agency should take to better respond to the challenge of the "environment-development" issue.

These recommendations could include the elaboration of eco-development principles that would have to be respected at the initial stage of project formulation or country program planning. They could also suggest new types of projects following a preventive approach rather than correcting past mistakes.

The ultimate goal of all these efforts would be to determine how eco-development could be included, in practical terms, in the management process of international co-operation organizations, and of CIDA in particular. . . in short, the challenge is to invent "eco-management".

Epilogue

This is the last article to appear in the eco-development column. We hope that the information presented has been useful, and invite you to continue to write to the Prospective Unit. Future developments in the field of eco-development will be covered in the news section. **DD**

Marc-André Fredette is research assistant to the Head of the Prospective Unit of CIDA

For an analysis of the concepts underlying "eco-management", please see Chevalier M. & Burns T., *A Public Management Strategy for Development and Environment*, Joint Project on Environment and Development, No. 4, CIDA/Environment Canada, Ottawa, 1978, which can be obtained free of charge from:

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DEVELOPMENT PERSPECTIVES UNITED NATIONS UNIVERSITY

by Jeff Endrst

The UN University (UNU) is an academic response to the growing international recognition that the major problems confronting many countries are the responsibility of the entire interdependent world. Consequently, the university's prime concerns are the pressing global issues of human survival, development and welfare.

The UNU is a new institution with a new concept. It does not offer courses. It does not enrol degree students. It does not give degrees. It is not located on a single campus with a single permanent faculty. Instead, the UNU provides training only on an advanced basis for specific purposes to meet urgent world needs.

The UNU is only three years old. Its administrative centre is in Tokyo. Its rector is James M. Hester, formerly president of New York University.

The UN-approved charter of the university designates the institution as an international community of scholars engaged in research, postgraduate training and dissemination of knowledge. The UNU functions through a central programming and co-ordinating body and a network of research and post-graduate training centres and programs located in both developed and developing countries.

Dr. Hester reported to the 1978 UN General Assembly that the university's community of scholars now embraces 20 associated institutions and 50 research units in 60 countries in the East and West, North and South.

There are Canadian connections with the UNU. The Centre for Research in Nutrition at Laval University in Quebec City provides fellows with training and applied research experience. The program is designed specifically for fellows from French-speaking Africa to study post-harvest food conservation methods and food and nutrition policy considerations and planning.

The Laval centre will lend particular assistance to the development of the Institute of Food Technology in Dakar, Senegal.

McGill University in Montreal is among the UNU's research units dealing with



goals, processes and indicators of development.

Roger Gaudry, the former rector of the University of Montreal and currently president of the International Association of Universities, is on the 24-member UNU council which is appointed jointly by the UN secretary-general and UNESCO's director-general.

Two days of consultative meetings in Ottawa last year between officials of the UNU and Canadian academicians were held in part to reassure Canada that the university, though within the UN system, is an autonomous body which receives no political guidance or guidelines from the United Nations.

As explained by Dr. Hester, the UNU exists to mobilize vast, largely uncoordinated and therefore inadequately applied resources of world science and scholarship. The task of the university is to focus these resources on problems of everyday existence that plague communities, regions, and nations throughout the world.

Dr. Hester sees two stubborn difficulties that block progress: first, that much available knowledge lies unused behind dams of ignorance, indifference, and inefficiency; and second, that what appear as promising solutions too often fail because they are attempted out of the context of local social, economic and cultural circumstances.

The UNU tries to alleviate this problem by seeking comprehensive understanding of global issues, by improving the flow of knowledge and by strengthening the ability of universities in the developing countries to apply knowledge to solutions of local problems.

One practical example is the UNU's World Hunger Program in which Laval University participates. It has shown that international standards to determine protein and energy needs in most developing countries are inadequate.

Half a dozen institutions on several continents are now engaged in providing a new scientific yardstick for what constitutes "adequate nourishment" for all human beings.

The UNU is also concerned with human and social development programs which determine difficult but always fundamental human issues. The project is designed to find out what conceptions people in Third World countries have of their needs and what should be the goals of development.

The UNU also has a program on the Use and Management of Natural Resources. It seeks ways to protect the environment while increasing the productivity of the land.

The university operates on the premise — called holism — that problems can only be understood if they are considered part of a complex of interacting causes and effects. Malnutrition, for example, is not only due to lack of food; indirectly it also stems from faulty distribution systems, or the lack of money to buy food. Moreover, malnutrition itself can impair an individual's earning capacity — thus perpetuating a vicious cycle.

In 1976, the UNU set its endowment fund target at (US)\$500 million. The fund now has only \$124 million in cash or pledges. Japan, the principal mover behind the university idea, is alone responsible for \$100 million. Canada and the United States, as well as the bulk of the European countries, have not contributed for various political or fiscal reasons.

The university had hoped to live on an income of at least \$25 million a year derived from the interest on the projected endowment fund. It has since adopted a more flexible financing strategy by accepting direct contributions or funds earmarked to finance specific program activities.

In the words of Dr. Hester, "the United Nations University is a new kind of institution for a new kind of year. But it is a lineal descendent of the ancient but always evolving university tradition that has inspired the belief in the power of learning to enlighten understanding and to help improve the conditions of existence."

He hopes that more than 20 countries — which is the current number of contributors — will help sustain this experiment. **DD**

DEVELOPMENT COMMENT

BARRIERS TO DEVELOPMENT DIALOGUE

by E. Ofori Akyea

There is a widespread tendency to trivialize discussions about development to sensationalize the unessentials and to lose sight of the important issues.

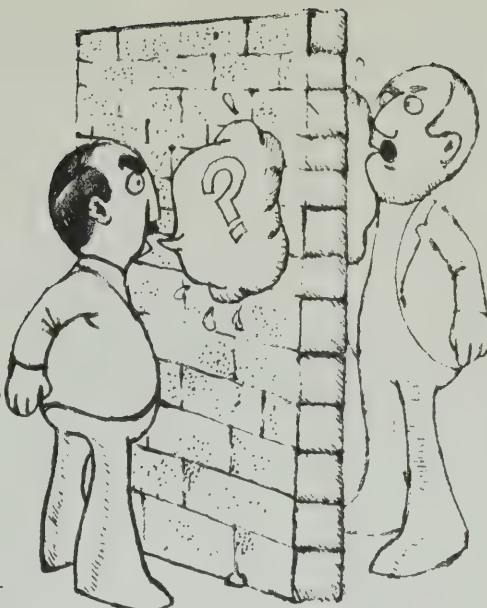
I was horrified to see a billboard in Switzerland with the inscription "\$200 million like that? Vote NO!" This referred to a projected \$200 million credit Switzerland was to offer to the International Development Agency (IDA), the soft loan affiliate of the World Bank.

Some of the arguments used in the campaign challenged the validity of any development assistance to the Third World: "Why should we give our hard earned money to people just like that?" demanded the billboard. Other questions thus displayed to the public included: "We had no aid from anyone and yet we made it!"; "If those people want to come up to our standards let them work for it!"; and "The money will be used to support Amin and his kind." In the end, the Swiss government did not grant the credit.

Trivialization of development issues led to a public outcry against what could have been a good development initiative.

Western taxpayers are often made to feel that their money spent on Third World development is being flushed down the drain. In some cases, the taxpayer is made to feel that officials are throwing good money after bad. Parliamentarians often win or lose votes on how well they can show that their government is not wasting constituents' money in some faraway developing country.

Many people in developed countries feel that those in the Third World who have not progressed to the economic level of the West have some serious weakness in their make-up — they are either corrupt, incompetent, or the weather will not allow them to achieve Western standards of development. How many of us have not been regaled with stories of corrupt incompetent officials in exotic places where nothing worked or where government officials in Third World countries were "ripping off" the poor and living in opulent luxury made possible only because aid



still goes to them from the suffering people in the West.

Another twist to this tendency is to spread the lie that the people of the poorer countries are waiting constantly for the dole and will do nothing for themselves.

The second major tendency that blocks a dialogue on development is to sensationalize the problems. The press in particular is often guilty of this. Journalists are often too ready to pounce on any misdemeanor by a leader of a developing country and make it the story around which an anti-aid crusade is organized. While the trivialities are hidden in high sounding moral platitudes, a journalist makes a name, a parliamentarian gains national prominence or notoriety, the aid agency bears the brunt of it all and the plight of the Third World citizens about whom the issue first arose is lost in the resulting din.

Some journalists tend to ridicule attempts being made by governments in developing countries to better the lives of their inhabitants. I have read articles ridiculing Tanzania's Ujamaa program while praising the attempts being made to improve the lives of blacks in Southern Africa under apartheid.

Many journalists have not grown out of the "Red scare" syndrome. They imply that the poor countries cannot think for themselves and there must be a guiding hand somewhere in the Kremlin, in Peking or in Cuba, manipulating them. They refuse to see Third World countries as partners in a common struggle for a better world for all.

In the prevalent tendency to approach other countries with an ideological orientation which detracts from the usefulness of the analysis, what is conveniently forgotten are ideas of

national sovereignty and all that it entails. Many aid donors say, "we give aid to you, so you must not receive development assistance from anyone else!"

The many needs of the recipient country are not taken into account. The fact that the country is free to ask whoever it wishes to come to its help is not taken into account. When reading Western political analyses these commentators always talk of the responsibilities and rights of "the people". In referring to the poor countries it is always the political leanings of their governments not the needs of their people that is important.

Another assumption that goes with that reasoning is that countries that follow the socialist path come to grief. Those that follow the capitalist road come out well. Inexplicably, the example given of the bad socialist is Tanzania. For the capitalist success stories, Argentina, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand and Chile are quoted with satisfaction.

Both the East and West wish to score points out of the economic difficulties of Third World nations. This is why those engaged in development work must intensify their development education activities. What must be tackled is not only indifference and ignorance but those journalists, politicians and other opinion-makers who — in the guise of being spokesmen — undo all that Third World development efforts seek to achieve.

What needs telling is that development is not a partisan activity participated in by a select few. We stand or fall together. Apart from helping the poorer nations, it is good business for the donor country. Implied in all development activity is an implicit question of our mode of life — both for the rich and the poor — which should lead us to a reconsideration of our modes of life and re-order these accordingly. Ideas like the New International Economic Order, basic needs and disarmament can then be seen in their true perspective. **DD**

Ofori Akyea, a citizen of Ghana, has since 1971 been director of development at the World Alliance of YMCAs based in Geneva, Switzerland.

Development comment is a column of opinion on issues in the field of international development.

Readers of Development Directions are invited to send submissions to this column. Items should not be more than 1,000 words, preferably typed and double spaced.



STEP RIGHT UP!
**SEE THE THIRD WORLD
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DEVELOPMENT DIRECTIONS

A NEWSMAGAZINE ON INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
MARCH/APRIL 1979

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UNESCO: RENEWING
THE WORLD'S
CULTURAL HERITAGE



VOLUME 2 NUMBER 3



UN photo

In the May/June issue...

Urban development?

Urban centres the world over are growing at an astounding rate. In the Third World, the inability of cities to absorb the influx of villagers attracted to illusive job opportunities, has given rise to massive suburban slums.

But efforts are underway to transform these slums. Among them are the efforts of a Geneva-based organization, the Association for the Development of Traditional African Urbanism and Architecture (ADAUA).

Rosso: a small town in Mauritania. Of the 25,000 inhabitants 12,000 live in slums. With the help of ADAUA, which takes part in urban development programs directed to the poorest communities, Rosso could well become a model town.

Development Directions is published six times a year by the Canadian International Development Agency under the authority of the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honorable Don C. Jamieson.

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The opinions expressed in this magazine do not necessarily reflect the opinion or policies of the Canadian International Development Agency.

Development Directions welcomes letters to the editor. Submissions should be addressed to:

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Development Directions,
Canadian International
Development Agency,
200 Promenade du Portage,
Hull, Quebec, Canada
K1A 0G4.

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Directions du Développement

Agence canadienne de
développement international
200, Promenade du Portage
Hull, Québec, Canada
K1A 0G4

ISSN 0705-064X

Second Class Mail
Registration Number 4353

Contract No. OKX7-1173
Beauregard Press
Printed in Canada

Cover:

The reconstruction of Borobudur, ancient spiritual centre of Buddhism in Java, Indonesia, is among the many UNESCO projects aimed at strengthening Third World cultures.

Photo: Harry Cummings

DEVELOPMENT DIRECTIONS

VOLUME 2 NUMBER 2 MARCH/APRIL 1979

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

All too often development planning has concentrated on economic growth, with only marginal concern for cultural development. UNESCO, as Raymond Grenier indicates in his article, is the "world philosopher" which has long championed the cause of cultural development.

Gordon Black's interview with the outgoing Canadian Ambassador to UNESCO, Yvon Beaulne, offers insights into the dynamics and problems of an international organization trying to assist in the fields of culture, education and science and still respecting the national character of independent nations. Mr. Beaulne recounts his pre-occupation with human rights and proposes the establishment of a human rights school in Canada.

Still in the field of cultural development, radio — a communications tool of 50 years' standing — is being used in a novel way by a team of Canadians in a Brazil literacy program, as related by Brian Upton.

Roger Levett gives us a close look at the people involved in development projects in a CIDA-supported project in Kenya. These CIDA co-operants share with us some of the problems of working in the field as well as the joys and strains of cultural interaction.

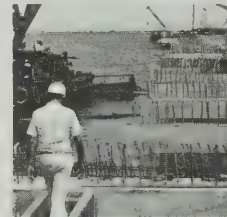
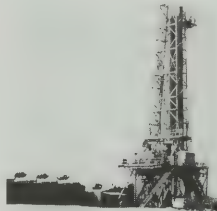
Glen Eyford offers a development comment in which he highlights the importance of "balanced" development for emerging countries. He poses the question, using the example of a newly independent nation, "Is Papua New Guinea to be a copy of some existing model or can its Melanesian roots provide a stronger and distinctive nation?"

Finally, Richard Burkart discusses the pressing concern of the international community when Western technologies are introduced to developing countries.

Paul Sweet

IN THE NEWS

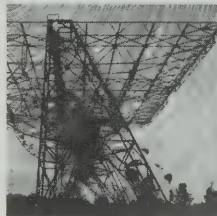
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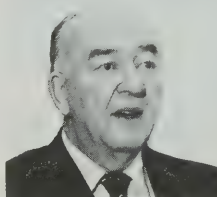
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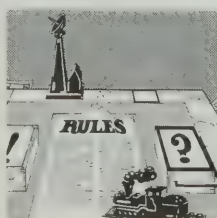
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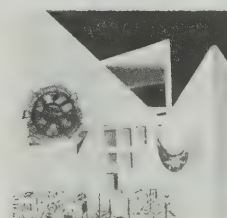


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ASIA

PAKISTAN: \$15.8 MILLION FOR OIL AND GAS DEVELOPMENT



This modern oil-drilling rig tops one of the wells at the Toot Oil Field in Pakistan.
Photo: Dana Way

The Canadian program of support to Pakistan's oil and gas development efforts is moving ahead through a \$15 million line of credit and \$800,000 worth of technical assistance.

Canadian equipment and expertise will be provided to help Pakistan's Oil and Gas Development Corporation (OGDC) develop the country's promising resources. Under the two agreements, which give substance to an agreement-in-principle signed June 5, 1978, Petro-Canada and CIDA will co-operate closely with OGDC in making available consultant services and essential Canadian equipment and spare parts.

Petro-Canada will act as Pakistan's agent for purchases under the line of credit and will design the over-all program of Canadian co-operation in Pakistan's oil and gas sector, which could involve upwards of \$70 million in CIDA funding over the next few years. CIDA will collaborate in the planning and will fund this phase of the program through an \$800,000 technical assistance grant and a \$15 million development loan (interest-free, 10 years grace, 50 years for repayment).

Energy is a crucial sector for Pakistan. Essential petroleum imports have been a heavy financial burden in recent years, making up about 30 per cent of the country's serious current account deficit. The recent foreign exchange

cost of about U.S. \$400 million yearly could grow to U.S. \$900 million by 1983 unless Pakistan can benefit from its own resources.

Canada's assistance is part of a broader effort, supported also by the World Bank and the United Kingdom's Overseas Development Ministry. The goal is to help Pakistan bring the Toot oil field into full production, to assist the OGDC in evaluating and developing other potential fields, and to aid it in acquiring management and operational skills so it can help Pakistan move toward energy self-sufficiency.

CIDA provided \$69 million of bilateral development assistance in 1977-78 to Pakistan, historically the second-largest recipient of Canadian aid. Canada has been the major source of help, largely through dams and transmission lines, in the development of Pakistan's power supply, half of which is used for agriculture (chiefly irrigation).

The current program gives priority to the development of agriculture, energy, natural resources, transportation and public health. In addition, Canadian non-governmental organizations (NGOs) were carrying out five projects in Pakistan during 1977-78, with a total value of \$1.4 million, assisted by \$440,000 contributed by CIDA's NGO Division.

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

CIDA AIDS VICTIMS OF PORTUGUESE FLOOD

Canada is contributing \$50,000 in response to an appeal from the League of Red Cross Societies for assistance to victims of flooding in Portugal.

The contribution, from CIDA, has been remitted to the Canadian Red Cross.

Rains and a heavy winter runoff from Spain have caused Portugal's worst flooding in the Tagus Valley in over a century.

The bulk of crops in the ground have been destroyed and thousands of people have been evacuated from towns in low-lying areas.

The number of victims whose dwellings have been ruined or heavily damaged is estimated at 50,000.

The Red Cross has supplied clothing, blankets and baby food to the disaster areas, but its stocks are nearly exhausted.

CANADIAN CONTRIBUTION TO UNHCR APPEAL FOR ZAIRE



Approximately 70 per cent of the Zairian refugees in Angola are farmers who for the most part arrived with no belongings.
UNHCR photo: A.C. Diegues

CIDA has approved a \$200,000 grant to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in response to his special appeal for the Zaire repatriation program.

The contribution will help buy emergency shelter, food and medical supplies for the more than 110,000 Zairian refugees returning under a general amnesty. Farm implements and seeds to make them self-sufficient again in a short time will also be supplied.

The repatriates are people who fled Zaire during various periods of civil strife in the past decade, especially during the Shaba uprisings of last year. Last June President Mobutu Sese Seko announced an amnesty for all — friend or foe — who would return before the end of 1978, a deadline since extended until June 1979.

Far more Zairians have returned under the amnesty than was expected. Many are now in transit centres, awaiting assistance to go back to their villages.

At the request of Mr. Mobutu the office of the UNHCR undertook a mission to Zaire and, on the basis of its findings and after consultations with government representatives, the UN Development Program, the World Food Program and UNICEF started a program of humanitarian assistance in November.

Total requirements for the program amount to \$11.37 million in cash and 13,500 tonnes of food. The program

has received generous support, particularly from the European Economic Community and the U.S., but is still several million dollars short.

The UNHCR has 10 staff members in Zaire to monitor the distribution of supplies.

FOOD AID CONFERENCE IN OTTAWA

Food aid from the developed nations offers no long-term solution to the problems Third World countries have in feeding their peoples. Recipients of food aid will have to make a maximum effort over the next ten years to give more priority to food production and to take the political action that will provide their peasant-farmers with incentives.

That was the message brought to members of the National Capital Region chapter of the UN Association by two Canadian authorities on food aid, in February at the University of Ottawa.

Dr. Roland Poirier, chairman of the Farm Credit Corporation and a former vice-president of CIDA, traced Canada's contributions to dealing with world hunger from the World Food Conference of 1975. A new Canadian food aid policy introduced in 1978 had made it possible for Canadian non-governmental organizations and provincial governments to contribute by means of the Voluntary Agricultural Development Aid program. Food aid was now being better integrated within each of CIDA's total aid programs and, moreover, was being meshed with each recipient country's program to increase food production.

His personal opinion is that no severe food crisis will threaten the world until at least the year 2025. Technology offers numerous ways of tapping new food reserves. Among the food conservation and production techniques open to us are using grains to feed people rather than to fatten livestock, eliminating waste, controlling plant destruction by disease and predators, better land usage, multiple cropping, and the more effective use of forests.

Hunter McGill, director of CIDA's Food Aid Co-ordination and Evaluation Centre, explained that the principal motivation for food aid is humanitarian although a country's balance-of-payments position was also considered as justification.

CIDA's practice was to take into account the "disincentive effect" of food

aid — that is, the counter-productive effect of food aid on a country's will to produce more food crops. The ability of a recipient country to distribute food aid also was considered.

Mr. McGill noted that there is a tendency for political elites in some developing countries to utilize food aid from donor countries for their own political ends and CIDA is vigilant in guarding Canada's food contributions against misuse.

He summed up CIDA's policy on aid to food production in the Third World in a simple statement: "Ideally we want to make the present recipients of food aid self-sufficient."

YEAR OF THE CHILD

CIDA PROVIDES FUNDS FOR INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE CHILD



Michel Dupuy formalizes CIDA's support for the joint UNICEF-Red Cross educational project. UNICEF chairman David Hahn (right) and Red Cross chairman Jim Kane (centre).

Photo: Andrews-Newton Photographers

The Canadian Red Cross and UNICEF-Canada received \$832,790 from CIDA on January 30 for an educational project connected with the International Year of the Child.

Michel Dupuy, President of CIDA, signed the cheque, which will cover half the cost of the project to help Canadian students learn how Third World children cope with the problems of food, housing, health, water and education.

Components of the project include an education kit for use by school teachers in all provinces and a television production in both official lan-

guages. The focal point of the project is October 24, 1979, officially designated by the Canadian Council of Education Ministers as a day of study and reflection on the International Year of the Child.

Essential elements of the project are:

a 32-page color, self-instructional magazine for teachers and students in grades seven to 13, which will contain some elements useful to younger school children;

education workshops to be held in each province to sensitize teachers to the project;

a special television presentation by CBC/Radio-Canada to be aired for all Canadians on October 23, 1979; the program will be directly related to material in the information booklet;

teacher-student workshops in all schools in 10 provinces on October 24.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

DIPLOMATIC APPOINTMENTS TO DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Robert B. Middleton, 47, originally from Vernon, British Columbia, has been named Ambassador to South Africa and concurrently High Commissioner to Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland. He has served abroad in Jakarta, Rio de Janeiro and Washington and has participated in United Nations conferences in Geneva and New York. Since 1976 he has been High Commissioner to Ghana with accreditation to Benin, Liberia and Togo.

Aubrey L. Morantz, 39, originally from Winnipeg, has been named Ambassador to Ethiopia. He has served abroad in Paris, Lisbon, Abidjan, Brasilia and since 1976 has been a counsellor in Washington.

Allan B. Roger, 49, originally from Haileybury, Ontario has been appointed High Commissioner to Barbados and concurrently to Grenada and Dominica, as well as Commissioner to the West Indies Associated States and Montserrat. He has served abroad in Santo Domingo, Rio de Janeiro, Copenhagen, Helsinki and Canberra. Until last year he was High Commissioner to Guyana.

T.B. (Terry) Sheehan, 41, originally from Ottawa, has been named High Commissioner to Kingston and concur-

rently to the Bahamas, as well as Commissioner to Belize. Since 1976 he has served as Minister-Counsellor (Immigration) in London.

Pierre Trottier, 53, originally from Montreal, has been appointed Ambassador and Canada's Permanent Delegate to UNESCO. He has served abroad in Moscow, London, Paris, and Peru where he was appointed Ambassador in 1973.

CIDA

A NEW HYPOTHESIS FOR DEVELOPMENT

Many of those who work in the field of development become discouraged by apparent lack of progress.

But in a seminar held on January 17 by the Prospective Unit of CIDA, Father Ernest Reid (now with St. Paul's University, after working for 23 years as a missionary in India) suggested an approach to development founded on optimism.

This approach would be based on a broader vision of the unique cultural aspects of individual communities and on the strong, inherent aspiration for human growth.

Underlying this approach is a new social anthropology, mainly inspired by field work, where direct contact with local populations is crucial.

Since any attempt at universality presents the risk of neo-colonialism, it is important to respect "uniqueness", to understand that every man has a character which derives from his identity, and continuity with his ancestors and his community. Therefore, developmentists must accept that attitudes and patterns of relating to the community — its potentials and its problems — cannot be altered overnight.

For similar reasons, we should always try to identify the local potential, involve the local population in the definition of its own problems and leave the means of solving these problems in the hands of the community.

Finally, says Father Reid, development workers must possess the humility to realize that their particular impact is temporary and partial.

Ending on a futuristic note, Father Reid emphasized that we must be inventive and audacious at this time when we are approaching the start of the third millennium.

CIDA PRESIDENT VISITS EAST AFRICAN PROJECTS



During a recent trip to East Africa, Michel Dupuy talked to Mulanje villagers using a water supply system similar to systems funded by CIDA in Malawi.

Photo: Karl Johansen

Michel Dupuy, President of CIDA, recently travelled to East Africa for a first-hand look at CIDA projects in Malawi and Tanzania. As part of the trip, Mr. Dupuy held talks with senior government officials in the two countries and extensive discussions with CIDA and External Affairs field staff.

An interesting sidelight was the reception accorded Mr. Dupuy and the Canadian delegation. Government officials could not do enough; public opinion is pro-Canadian and the media had high praise for Canadian efforts in the Third World.

An article in the Malawi Daily Times noted, "Countries such as Canada which have a long history of endurance for self-determination, are known to be among those which have made success of various enterprises including opening up agriculture in very difficult terrains. They have also a ready helping hand for those who help themselves first."

Another article asks "Where do thousands of young Africans, including two sons of Zambia's President Kaunda, go to obtain university degrees and technical training?" and "which country was first to announce last year that it was cancelling old loan debts of the poorer developing nations . . ." "The answer . . . Canada."

The Malawi portion of the trip included visits to the CIDA assisted railway project and the Bulozzi Self-help Primary

School, an example of CIDA funding from mission administered funds. Mr. Dupuy also participated in a symbolic sod turning for the Malawi Dairy project and signed a \$6.8 million grant agreement for the project.

In Tanzania, Mr. Dupuy visited a variety of projects including the Canadian assisted Wheat Research Station and farms in the northern part of the country. He also visited the railway project, Arusha sites and services project and several non-government organization projects in both countries.

MISSION TO SOUTHEAST ASIA



CIDA's president examined the port and harbor facilities of Biringkassi Port in Indonesia during his tour. The port, now completed, will permit the distribution of cement from the Tonasa cement plant.

Photo: Coutinho-Caro

CIDA President Michel Dupuy carried out a three-week mission in southeast Asia during February.

Travelling through Malaysia and Indonesia after taking part in business-oriented seminars in Alberta, Mr. Dupuy visited a variety of Canadian-assisted projects.

While in Jakarta, Mr. Dupuy signed agreements on several parts of Canada's program of development co-operation with Indonesia, including ongoing or projected efforts in such fields as power, roads, forestry, animal health and industrial co-operation. Two of the agreements launched new bilateral projects involving Indonesia's hydroelectric and forest resources.

The Sentani project, located in the outlying province of Irian Jaya (the western half of New Guinea), will tap hydroelectric potential by channeling water

from Lake Sentani to the nearby sea. In the project's first phase, funded by a \$2 million CIDA grant, Canada will provide engineering services to verify the project's viability, carry out design work and prepare tender documents. Sentani could begin generating power in about five years with four 6.5 MW units replacing the aging and expensive diesel equipment now in use.

By meeting backed-up demand, the new power system should have a strong impact on the local economy, stimulating business, resource development, and employment. In a broader perspective, it will contribute substantially to Indonesia's efforts to discourage the drift of population to overcrowded Java by paying attention to outlying areas and promoting balanced regional development.

The second new project, financed by a \$600,000 CIDA grant, involves forestry technical studies that will also help to encourage regional development. Over a three-year period, Canada will provide advisory services, equipment and training to help Indonesia undertake a national inventory of its forest resources.

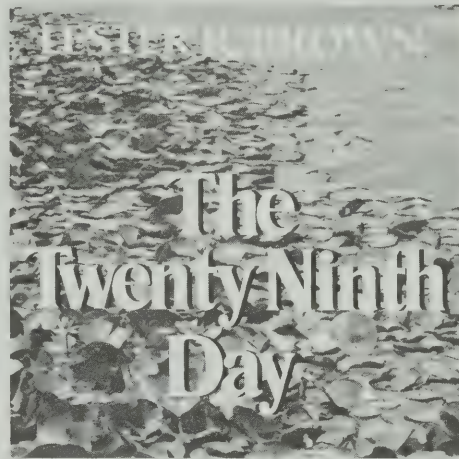
Significant Canadian bilateral assistance to Indonesia only began in 1970. The program started with food aid and lines of credit to supply balance-of-payments support, but was reshaped to concentrate on specific development projects when oil revenues somewhat improved Indonesia's financial position. Projects over the past few years have included bridge reconstruction in Sulawesi, studies of island water resources, and regional development master plans. Twin Otter STOL aircraft have also been supplied, along with other equipment and services, to strengthen communication in a country spread across thousands of islands.

Despite oil income, Indonesia continues to need development assistance (population 135 million and per capita GNP of \$220). Last year (1977-1978) CIDA disbursed \$13 million on a bilateral program based on three main sectors: transportation, power, and regional development/agriculture/water.

Canada also participates multilaterally in the development of Indonesia through the Asian Development Bank and the World Bank. In addition, CIDA has contributed about \$2 million since 1968 toward about 40 projects sponsored by Canadian voluntary agencies in such fields as community development, health, education and co-operatives.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

THE TWENTY NINTH DAY



W.W. Norton & Co., New York
363 pages, \$3.95
by Lester Brown

First the good news: in 1962, Rachel Carson drew public attention to 12 pesticides that might be harmful to humans and animals; today, all are regulated, and some are no longer even being produced. Now the bad news: pollution is alive and well, thanks to the new, long-lived synthetic chemicals, the toxicity of heavy metals used in industry (mercury poisoning is one well known example), ozone depletion and 'acid rain'. And, what we don't pollute, we are gobbling up at a rate far in excess of the earth's "carrying capacity".

That's the first message of Lester Brown's newest book, *The Twenty Ninth Day*. The title refers to the riddle of the lily pond which contains a single leaf. Each day the number of leaves doubles — two leaves the second day, four the third, eight the fourth and so on. The question is: if the pond is full on the thirtieth day, when is it half full?

Answer: on the twenty ninth day.

Deforestation, overgrazing and overplowing have led to alarming worldwide soil erosion and an accelerated loss of cropland. The best example perhaps is the Sahel, but the process is global. Urbanization adds to the problem: between 1966 and 1971, for example, 10 per cent of all improved farmland in Ontario was lost to urban sprawl.

Growing population pressure on the land adds to the food problem; the development of technology and its transfer to Third World countries

emphasizes fewer jobs, not more; vast disparities exist not only in income distribution between countries, as emphasized by the Third World's call for a New International Economic Order, but in the distribution of wealth and income within countries as well. A Bangladesh study shows the relationship between land-holdings and death rate in the starkest of statistics: the death rate per thousand for those with three acres or more was 12.2; for those with no land it was over 35.

The problem we face today, Brown says, is one of coming to terms with nature. In energy terms, for example, the question is not whether global oil production will decline — of that there is no question — but whether alternate sources will be available when the decline occurs. In the past, societies have had the luxury of substitutes and alternatives to fall back on as individual shortages occur. What we now face, however, is something quite exceptional, as a multiplicity of interdependent factors all approach planetary limits at the same time.

It presents us with a troublesome philosophical and political dilemma: can we rely on voluntary adjustments in individual, national and international behavior, or must we resort to compulsory changes? Can the growing examples of national legislation regarding land use and pollution, for example, be applied to questions of population, ownership and energy consumption?

The Twenty Ninth Day attempts to answer some of these questions, and proposes what Brown calls "the elements of the inevitable accommodation". Among them he lists population stabilization; a transition to an energy consumption level in tune with resources; reform in the countryside which would include land redistribution and job creation; a redefinition of national security to include non-military aspects.

Among the means to this end is long-term global planning, some of the impetus for which can come from individuals and organizations. He cites the impact of individuals like Rachel Carson, Betty Friedan, Barbara Ward and Ernst Schumacher and places as much of the responsibility for change on people, teachers and the media, as he does on government.

The book is an all-too-rare example of the holistic approach to development which, as Brown demonstrates, the world so urgently requires.

As a readable, factual, topical compendium of information and analysis, it should be required reading for anyone interested in national and international development. It not only updates and popularizes the Limits to Growth, it goes a lot further in discussing the political will that is required of individuals and nations, if we are to survive the twenty ninth day.

reviewed by Ian Smillie

Ian Smillie is Director of Operations of the Canadian NGO, Inter Pares, and has spent several years working in the field of international development in Canada, Africa and Asia.

RYERSON LAUNCHES THIRD WORLD TABLOID



Ryerson Polytechnical Institute.
Photo: Jerry Davey

"Connections" is a new tabloid newspaper about Canada and the Third World. Launched in January by the Third World Centre of Ryerson Polytechnical Institute, it reports on the development movement across Canada, with emphasis on practical aid programs which involve professional and occupational groups.

Coming out every two months, the 16-page paper is the visible part of a training project to turn out journalists better informed about development. The 20-member Development Journalism Group, which includes students attending Ryerson from the Third World, meets in weekly sessions run by the Centre in downtown Toronto.

Like "Connections", the Third World Centre is itself an educational innovation, set up in 1976 with the backing of Ryerson's Academic Council. In the past year the Centre's emphasis has broadened from strictly curriculum concerns and events within Ryerson,

to programs involving professional groups outside the Institute.

One current CIDA-assisted project is a workshop series for dietitians and nutritionists in industry and government. Major activities lined up for 1979-80 will focus on technology transfer and Canada's tourism links with the Caribbean.

With over 25 stories in each issue, "Connections" tries to combine solid reporting with a popular style. The promise of a crack at controversial issues is in the "Connections" editorial called "Why this newspaper?" which states:

"There are 60 million people out there suffering from malnutrition, while one of our biggest causes of early death is overeating. They grow the food and resources we consume, but so many of their lives are wretched compared with ours.

"The tragedy in the Third World is that it is all quite unnecessary, for everyone on earth could have a decent life if the world's resources, material and knowledge, were more evenly distributed."

The editorial notes that Canadian jobs, leisure, homes and life style are reliant on raw materials and commodities supplied by the have-not nations.

While the above may sound familiar to some Canadians, most are not aware of it. There is still an incredible gap in knowledge about the realities of Canada's dependence on trade and the developing nations for its well-being. The misunderstanding of the issues of development co-operation is often compounded by the media with its penchant for show biz satire rather than a desire to inform with in-depth stories and documentaries.

"Connections" will help fill this information gap along with such periodicals as "The New Internationalist", "Development Directions", "Action", and publications of the non-governmental organizations.

In addition to the regular print run of 10,500, special supplements to "Connections" will be produced from time to time as the paper expands its distribution beyond its present readership in the universities and professions.

CIDA provided a grant of \$10,000 to help launch the newspaper.

To subscribe or contribute, write to: Connections, Third World Centre, Room M210, Ryerson Polytechnical Institute, 50 Gould St., Toronto, M5B 1E8.

CO-OPERATIVES

DAIRY CO-OPS IN PERU



One of the farms near Pisco, Peru which will be helped by the CHF project. 3,600 tonnes of milk a year ultimately will be produced from about 800 cows.

Photo: Canadian Hunger Foundation.

A project to establish a pilot dairy farm in Pisco, 250 kilometres south of Lima, was inaugurated last month in Peru.

The five-year program to provide Peruvian dairy co-operatives with Holstein-Friesian cattle, equipment, technical and material assistance, is financed by a \$4.3 million grant from CIDA.

The Canadian Hunger Foundation (CHF) will implement and manage the project in close co-operation with Peru's Ministry of Agriculture and Food, the Central de Cooperativas Los Libertadores, and farm co-operatives.

The Peruvian Government is actively encouraging production and marketing of milk and other dairy products because of the large gap between supply and demand. Peru imports large quantities of milk powder to meet demands in larger cities, such as Lima, with a population of four million. Milk, dairy products and meat from an integrated dairy industry in the Pisco Valley will be marketed in Lima.

The Central de Cooperativas Los Libertadores provides marketing, agricultural extension and other services to eight of 12 agricultural producer co-operatives along the Pisco River. The co-ops have 16,000 hectares of good agricultural land with a flood system of irrigation.

CIDA will donate dairy cattle, farm equipment, veterinary supplies and

other material to the Peruvian Government. Peru's Ministry of Agriculture and Food will transfer the donation to the central co-op. When the central co-op sells the cattle and other goods to its member co-ops, a development fund will be created to finance related projects.

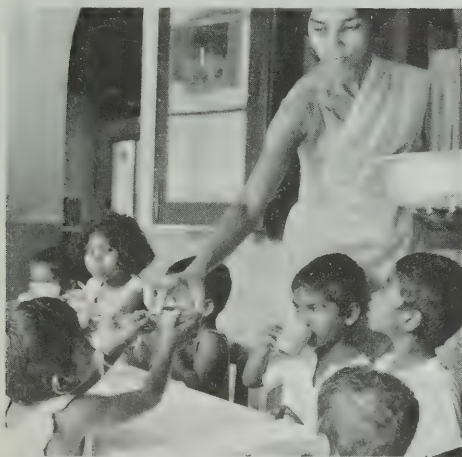
The main cash crop in the valley is cotton but declining markets have depressed the economy of the area. Corn, beans and other vegetables are produced. While some co-ops have dairy cattle, there is no established dairy tradition among members.

A Canadian team established in Pisco will assist in demonstrating the techniques and supervision of on-the-job training of Peruvian counterparts.

It is hoped that 3,600 tonnes of milk a year will ultimately be produced from about 800 cows managed by Peruvian co-operatives.

UNICEF

CIDA SUPPORT FOR UNICEF PROJECTS



Among the CIDA-supported projects of UNICEF is this orphanage in Tikiri, Sri Lanka. CIDA photo: Dilip Mehta

CIDA will contribute \$4.7 million to the Canadian UNICEF Committee for 14 projects aimed at improving the well-being of mothers and children in the developing world.

Total budget for the projects including the CIDA contribution, is \$9,901,027.

Seven of the projects are for the provision of safe drinking water, two will provide preventive medical programs and the remaining five projects cover a range of activities including education, nutrition and overall community development.

The CIDA contribution will be made over a three-year period in four of the 14 countries and over a two-year period in the remaining 10.

In making the announcement Mr. Jamieson said that it was particularly appropriate in 1979, the International Year of the Child, for Canadian organizations to co-operate with CIDA towards improving the quality of life for children and their families in the developing world.

CARIBBEAN INTEGRATION

CANADA SIGNS NEW AGREEMENT WITH CARIBBEAN



Sugar production is basic to the economies of many CARICOM countries. Photo: Crombie McNeill

Don Jamieson, Canada's Secretary of State for External Affairs, signed a Trade and Economic Co-operation Agreement between Canada and the governments of the Caribbean Common Market (CARICOM) during a visit to the Caribbean in late January.

Representatives of Antigua, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Jamaica, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla, St. Lucia, and Trinidad and Tobago signed the agreement at a ceremony in Kingston, Jamaica on January 20. Guyana, Montserrat and St. Vincent representatives were expected to sign the agreement later.

The new agreement replaces the Canada-West Indies Trade Agreement of 1925. It includes sections on trade, financial and technical co-operation, and industrial co-operation, as well as a separate protocol on industrial co-operation. The agreement is the first of

its kind between CARICOM and an individual country, and the first between Canada and a group of developing countries.

In trade, the agreement provides for the exchange of most-favored-nation treatment and facilitation of two-way trade. The financial and technical co-operation agreement section contains provisions for Canada's development assistance to CARICOM states individually and to the region as a whole.

Mr. Jamieson said industrial co-operation was "a facet of international economic relations of overriding importance in the world today". He expressed the hope that the protocol would "lead quickly to increased transfers to CARICOM states of human and other resources so necessary to continuing progress in the development and diversification of (CARICOM) economies and of benefit in strengthening and improving (Canada's) economy".

Mr. Jamieson was accompanied on his visit by seven senior executives of Canadian businesses. He indicated that the Canadian private sector must eventually undertake the industrial co-operation the agreement provides for. Governments would identify sectors in which investment and technical transfers are desired and necessary and where corresponding Canadian ability exists. Mr. Jamieson mentioned the sectors of agriculture, fisheries, light manufacturing such as furniture and housing components, trade and various financial and other service industries.

The agreement also envisages a Joint Trade and Economic Committee which will meet annually. Mr. Jamieson invited CARICOM governments to hold the first meeting in Canada this spring.

Mr. Jamieson was also accompanied on his visit by two Members of Parliament: Max Saltzman (NDP, Waterloo-Cambridge) and Maurice Dionne (Lib., Northumberland-Miramichi). They met with local groups of parliamentarians.

During his six-day visit in the Caribbean, Mr. Jamieson visited the site of the Uplands sugar cane separator, a project involving assistance from CIDA (see Development Directions, November/December 1978). He also visited a new Comprehensive School built under CIDA auspices near Castries, St. Lucia.

RADIO-VISION IN BRAZIL

by Brian Upton

Radio — a communications tool of 50 years' standing — is being used in a novel way by a team of Canadians in a Brazil literacy program.

The technique, called radio-vision, combines radio messages together with graphic illustrations, slides or simple posters to reach far-flung groupings of people in the vast Bahia State of north east Brazil.

The Canadians are acting only as consultants on the content of the literacy program. Their key task is to train Brazilians, who have only three or four years of primary education, in the technique. They have set up two recording studios, a graphics studio and a photo laboratory. In line with the trend to train local teachers who will adapt modern but simple techniques to local customs and culture, the Canadians are training 50 technicians to produce radio-vision programs and 250 "orienters". The orienters will train 10,000 village teachers between now and 1981 who will eventually reach 400,000 children.

There is a careful monitoring and evaluation plan built into the project, a component that did not exist in radio education projects tried out in Latin America and in Africa in the past. Another difference is the concentration of the efforts on local teachers and orienters. Previous radio-vision efforts were directed to the public in general by missionaries or other "outsiders". Without any feedback, such efforts, apparently were less effective.

Preliminary work for this project was done in what once was the choir loft of a tiny church in the north end of Montreal where Jacques Lambert, head of the project, has his office.

Lambert Lepage Labbé Inc., has six communicators in Salvador, Brazil, working full time and several specialists on short-term contracts. The team and their families were plunged into a total immersion in the life style of Brazil, including 200 hours of Portuguese language training, before they moved to Brazil in September, 1977.

Mr. Lambert said that while radio has been around for 50 years, it is now being used in new ways, now that UNESCO and other international organizations have tried more sophisticated teaching systems such as those using television which cost more than radio



CSF photo: René Bouillot

and which require more complex support services.

"Radio-vision was always considered as the poor man's way, a technique to be used when one couldn't afford anything better," he said.

"Radio with the addition of the visual medium is about the only way you can reach little groupings of people in Brazil which is a bit like Canada with its wide open spaces."

Where electricity is available, the little transistor radio carrying the message is combined with slide illustrations and a projector. In villages without electricity, posters are used.

"What is important in radio-vision is the close link between the sound and the illustration. The image is not just there as a decoration since it is an important element in the understanding of the message," Mr. Lambert says.

"It should be remembered that people in Africa and South America are used to an oral and visual tradition. This is another reason why radio-vision can be effective. Cassettes and tape-recorders are also expensive and negatively affected by humidity.

"Once all the technicians were trained and the programs prepared, the Brazilians started the instructional broadcasts in January. There are 50 groups of 40 students each. Individual groups are under the authority of an apprentice orienter who is responsible for animating the group before, during and after the broadcast.

"The broadcasts will be of 30 minutes duration but will provide enough material for 90 minutes of follow-up instruction once the broadcast is over.



Photo: Lambert Lepage Labbé

"One very important element of the broadcast is the feedback. Since we have daily contact with the 50 groups they can indicate to us aspects of the program that are not well understood. This enables correctional material to be rebroadcast within 15 days. This is an original aspect of this project which has not yet been done elsewhere.

"Another important aspect is research and evaluation. There is a group within the project whose function is to research and analyse the process."

CIDA has funded the project with almost \$1 million for salaries and equipment, while Brazil has put up an equivalent amount in cash and provided buildings and various other facilities.

For more information on this project, write to: Jacques Lambert, Radio-Vision Project, rua Pedro Gama 413-E, Federação 40,000, Salvador, Bahia, Brazil. **DD**

Brian Upton is a CIDA information officer for Latin America and the Caribbean.

TOURISM INDUSTRY IN AFRICA LINKED TO DEVELOPMENT

by Jeff Endrst

International tourism now generates about a (US)\$25 billion business each year. Civil aviation is worth another \$25 billion. Together, the two industries are second only to oil in income generation.

Yet Africa's share amounts to only \$1.5 billion. Recently, the UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) met in Banjul, Gambia, to do something about it. Together with the World Tourism Organization, the ECA identified tourism as a new sector of development. It called for a well conceived, properly articulated and well implemented program in tourism. This, it said, would enable African countries to achieve self-reliance, greater economic, social and political co-operation and integration, as well as a greater degree of interdependence of Africa and the other continents.

The ECA recognized that Africa's poor showing in the tourism business reflects the inherent weaknesses of the African economy in general and of tourism policies of individual governments in particular. The commission acknowledged that the African tourist industry has been geared to attracting non-African tourists.

The result has been that foreign tourists travel to Africa mostly on foreign airlines and boats. They pay their fares and the bulk of their expenses in home currencies to foreign travel agents. To Africa, they bring "small change" to buy souvenirs.

A better return from investments

Meanwhile, in preparation for these tourists, African governments invest substantial resources — usually borrowed from industrialized countries — for hotels and other tourist attractions.

On reason for it, the ECA said, is that few African governments command negotiating capabilities to ensure a better return from foreign investments. The Banjul meeting suggested an alternative. "If we are going to develop collective self-reliance through co-operation and integration of Africa," said the Executive Secretary of the ECA,



The thrill of viewing some of the world's most exotic animals in their natural setting is being shared by a large number of tourists every year.

CIDA photo

Adebayo Adedeji, "we must recognize intra-African tourism for what it is, namely, a potentially powerful tool for achieving this objective."

This may look good on the political drawing boards, some critics say. But how quickly can Africa change the reality?

One change is already being attempted, and on a massive scale. Forty-two sub-Saharan countries have launched a \$180 million plan to raise civil aviation standards in Africa, and also to train 17,000 local aviation technicians over the next five years.

The project is the result of a \$500,000 UNDP-funded study on civil aviation needs in Africa, carried out by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) in Montreal. The African countries are committed to provide \$45 million in cash and kind towards the project. The UNDP has pledged \$35 million. The remaining \$100 million is to come from interested donor countries and organizations.

According to ICAO, there are over 100 recognized disciplines in civil aviation, but only seven of them are fundamentally relevant to this program. They are: pilots, aircraft mechanics, communications operators, radio maintenance technicians, air traffic controllers, fire and rescue personnel, and meteorologists. Together, they represent 85 per cent of the manpower which can be trained in Africa.

Multinational training centres

The project gives emphasis to the idea that African nationals should become instructors. Thus far, most African countries have to rely on foreigners as pilots and senior administrative or technical personnel. But this project should change things around. It calls for the creation of and support from two multinational training centres — one French-speaking at Franceville, Gabon, and one English-speaking in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. In addition, there are to be sub-regional centres in Niger and Uganda. Furthermore, there are advanced civil aviation schools in Zaire, Nigeria and Zambia which provide facilities for the training of pilots and engineers.

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) reports that Africa accounts for less than 3 per cent of the estimated 200 million international airline passengers a year. IATA feels that Africa should do much better. Within the continent itself, the prospects for expansion are especially promising because of the need to link up East and West Africa. Airlines and development go hand-in-hand especially for the land-locked countries and those with poor roads. In one-third of the African countries, the best means of transportation remains the aircraft.

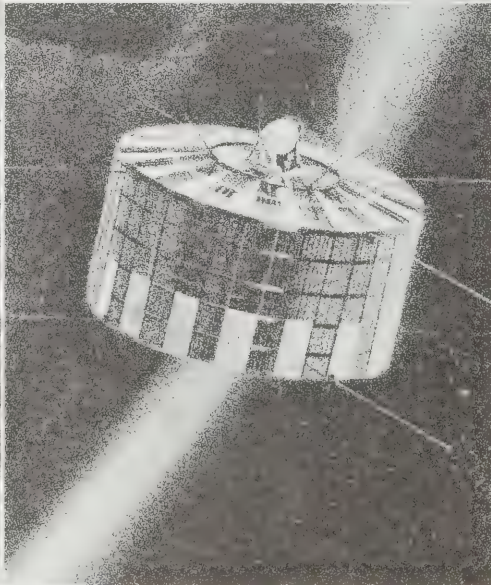
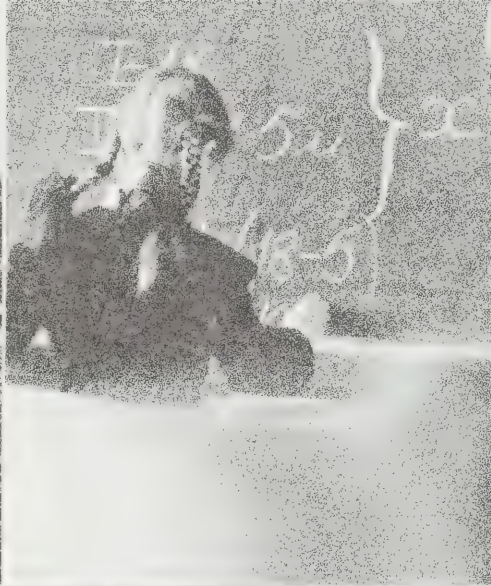
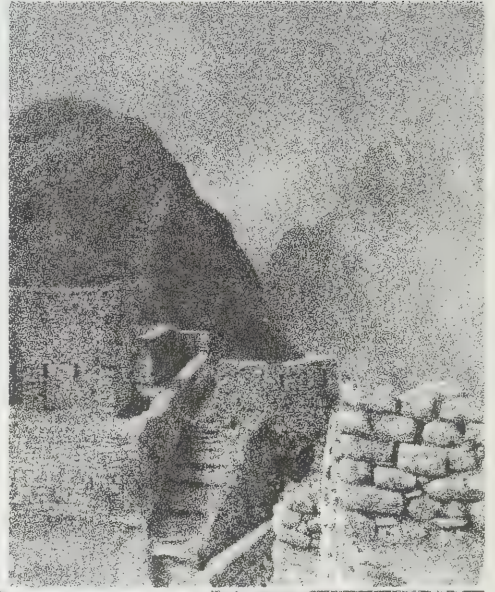
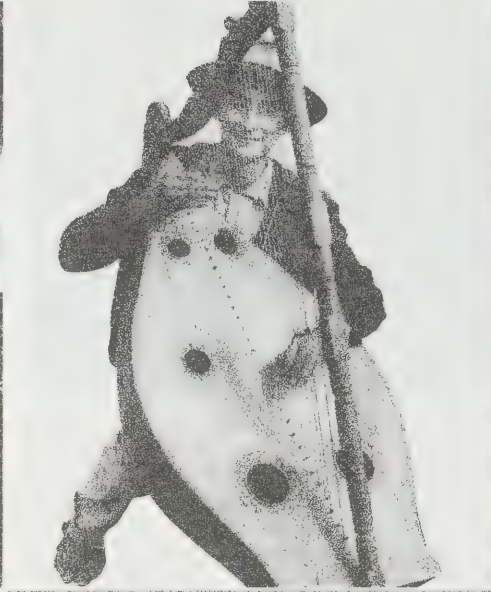
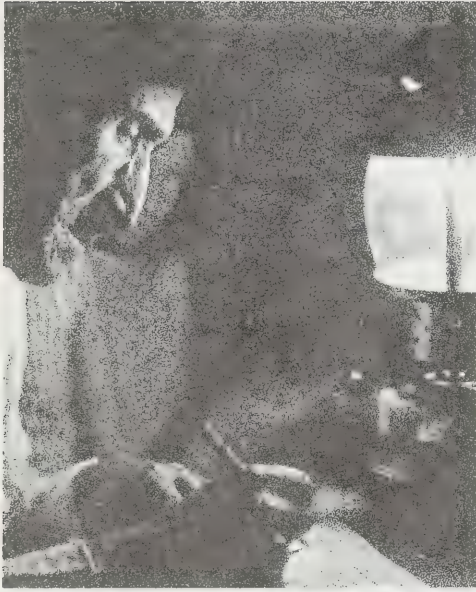
There are a few dark clouds on the African aviation horizon. It is considered uneconomical for the African airlines to lower air fares. They don't have the passenger bulk to make up the difference. Even if the fares came down and tourism increased, it is questionable whether the existing ground facilities could cope with such a sudden and dramatic influx.

IATA admits that the cost of the aviation business in Africa is relatively high. Unit operating costs are about 50 per cent higher than on the North Atlantic route, and more than 30 per cent above the average for the international aviation network. Also, the present air route structure in Africa does not lend itself to efficient utilization or high-load factors. What it means is that on a daily basis, African airlines are used 4-1/2 hours as against 7-1/2 hours for non-African airlines.

Progress may be slow but not insignificant. The African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC) was founded only in 1969. Today, 20 African countries are IATA members, and this agency now has a regional office in Nairobi, Kenya. **DD**

Jeff Endrst is Development Directions' correspondent at the UN.

UNESCO



INTERVIEW WITH UNESCO AMBASSADOR, YVON BEAULNE

by Gordon Black

Yvon Beaulne, diplomat and humanitarian, relaxes briefly in an Ottawa hotel room away from the pressure of his job as Canadian ambassador to UNESCO in Paris, and looks hopefully but questioningly at the multi-disciplined agency he has worked with over the past two and a half years.

He is pleased that more Canadians, especially provincial government representatives, are at last backing the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; and that Canadian expert assistance is fully accepted in the Third World.

He is philosophical about UNESCO's near break-up last December over communications and racial prejudice questions, claiming hot political debate has always been UNESCO's lifeblood, and is always followed by consensus. But he says he isn't sure how the West should handle some of the developing countries' darker fears.

In April he is leaving his UNESCO post to become Canadian ambassador to the Vatican and feels it's a good time to sum up his feelings.

He talks exuberantly about the new provincial spirit ready to work at the supra-national level, but in a deeper context he stares agonizingly at a world profoundly split into different ideologies, perceptions and stages of development. "If you ask me how we can meaningfully assist developing nations without appearing to dominate, I can't answer you", he says, "It's a problem that has bothered me for years." He prefers to mention practical things Canada has done to help solve major UNESCO problems.

Compromise between East and West

He gives most of the credit to Napoléon Leblanc (director of adult education at Quebec's Laval University) who as chairman of UNESCO's 20th general conference (Paris, December 1978), managed to avert a fatal split in the agency by hammering out a compromise between East and West over a Third World resolution demanding a new communications order and total condemnation of the western press. Beaulne says he can't praise Leblanc



Yvon Beaulne.

Photo: Andrews-Newton Photographers

too highly, since at the same session he also prevented another dangerous rift by engineering withdrawal of a Third World racial-prejudice motion, considered by most western delegates as "too scientific" and too middle-east oriented.

Beaulne says Canada achieves such diplomatic successes because the Third World trusts her. "In communications they realize Canada's problems are almost identical to theirs; for example how to project the national identity abroad, when newspapers fail to appoint foreign correspondents and treat all news as "fillers" to run between the ads; while television is totally dominated by outside interests." Consequently he says Canada has been able to send journalists, technicians and producers to many developing countries, to run journalism schools, install satellite equipment and provide a communications infrastructure.

Educationally, Canadians were playing major roles in North Africa and the Ivory Coast where they had helped build one of Africa's largest audio-visual school systems, alleviating an acute teacher shortage. In South America, Canadian priests had put up a school for Quetchua and Aymara Indians in a fertile Bolivian valley for under \$3,000, then called in UNESCO experts to teach agriculture there . . . and there were dozens more projects involving Canadians.

In the cultural sphere, they were participating in such major UNESCO campaigns as rescuing Venice from the sea (under Joe Martin, assistant curator, National Gallery), and surveying and nominating outstanding natural sites for the World Heritage List.

In addition, Canadian scientists had served as UNESCO experts on everything from Man and Biosphere to the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of the International Hydrological Program.

Two final projects of interests to Beaulne: a UNESCO committee studying the rights of children born out of wedlock (in connection with the 1979 International Year of the Child), and a study directed towards a code of prison behavior. The ambassador says he finds Canadian involvement in all of the above "quite natural" since UNESCO is the sum total of its members, not some remote body of abstract thinkers.

Need for human rights school

Beaulne's main contribution to UNESCO is as a human rights specialist. (Since January 1976 he has been Canadian representative to the UN Human Rights Commission.) 1978 was the 30th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, so UNESCO decided to become more involved in this area. Last September it organized an international conference on human rights teaching in Vienna, attended by some 300 delegates from 60 countries.

Beaulne said he had earlier suggested UNESCO compile a human rights teaching manual and go directly into human rights teaching, particularly at the specialists' level. He is currently overseeing preparation of a human rights manual for Canada, and says his "pet project" is to start a human rights school for judges and lawyers within the law faculty of the University of Ottawa. He says it is essential because "Canadian judges have until now tended to ignore human rights in their sentences".

He says he is pleased with provincial governments' attitudes to human rights legislation, and knows, theoretically at least, they favor teaching human rights. But he is disappointed these same provinces' education authorities seem to reject the idea of including human rights in school civics or religious instruction courses "for fear of overloading the curriculum".

Despite this, he calls Canada, which in 1976 signed two UN rights covenants, plus an optional protocol on individual complaints, a "good human rights country".

He is less sure about other areas of the world — for example parts of Asia where the concept of human rights as we know them seems to disappear. "Very few Asian countries have signed the covenants", says Beaulne. "They seem to regard traditional human

rights as an extension of western or Christian values.

"Remember there are two kinds of human rights — civil and political, touching on freedom of conscience; and economic, social and cultural rights, touching on education, employment, medical care and leisure. Socialist and Third World countries give priority to the latter. We in the West believe both sets of rights to be complementary."

UNESCO: a model world body

Beaulne says the dilemma is whether to proclaim traditional rights around the world, or keep them to ourselves. "Personally I prefer the former because ultimately these individual rights, though part of our civilization, have universal appeal.

"But there are limits. How, for instance, can we promote human rights in a country where there is torture or where women are still treated as chattels?" He criticizes countries that busy themselves with human rights violations in a few well-known countries but ban all investigation of their own transgressions. "Charity-begins-at-home is a rule that should apply to everyone", says Beaulne.

He believes the new emphasis on human rights has radically changed UNESCO's image from a dry forum for academic discussion to that of inspirational world body — from educational theorist à la famous Faure Report to new lifelong teacher. And naturally this change of style will make UNESCO more meaningful to the common man.

Besides being a general rights educator, Beaulne says UNESCO concerns itself with specific rights falling under its jurisdiction — those of teachers, journalists, artists, scientists and others working in UNESCO-related areas. But he emphasizes that since the signing of the optional covenant no Canadian has directly complained to UNESCO about a rights violation. "I suppose it's because Canada is a conscientious human rights country", comments Beaulne.

Giving and receiving

During a recent cross-Canada tour Beaulne says he discovered the great new provincial concern for world problems. "They seem willing to give, not just receive benefits from UNESCO, and their interest is direct." This meant that Canada's two-tier government approach to UNESCO could henceforth be curtailed. The provinces would deal straight with the UN agency in the wide range of subjects under their jurisdiction. External Affairs would do

the co-ordinating. (The federal government also pays Canada's annual membership of some \$6.5 million, ninth highest among the 146 countries contributing to UNESCO's \$303 million (1979-80) budget.)

Beaulne says he is especially glad provincial governments are giving strong support to the Canadian Forthnight at UNESCO headquarters May 11-26, and says their heavy input of culture, entertainment and educational films was helping make the Paris exhibition the biggest in UNESCO's history. He is also glad that Mayor Jean Drapeau of Montreal was able to sponsor a UNESCO pavilion at last year's Man and His World exhibition.

Warming to the idea of provincial support for UNESCO, Beaulne says, "That's my kind of federalism. Such co-operation at the international level could help promote Canadian unity."

His diplomatic postings have been both bilateral: ambassador to Brazil, Venezuela, the Dominican Republic, minister to Washington, and multilateral: permanent representative to the UN; director, bureau of African and middle eastern affairs; and since September 1976 ambassador to UNESCO.

He admits he has achieved more practical results as envoy to one country, rather than having to face the whole world. But he says the UNESCO job has given him a fantastic insight into the human condition.

Despite its strident clashes, Beaulne believes UNESCO will survive because it is "an essential forum in today's complex world". But he warns the complacent: "you can't stop the march of history, or cling to outmoded ideas. Great living civilizations can no longer be shut up in museums."

Speaking of his new Vatican posting, he says it is "not incompatible" with his UNESCO experience. "I am ready to go wherever I am needed. The Catholic Church is greatly concerned with human rights."

Mr. Beaulne, who will keep his position on the UN Human Rights Commission, was recently appointed president of the Commission's up-coming 35th session. **DD**

Gordon Black is a Toronto-based freelance writer and broadcaster.

UNESCO AND CIDA WORKING TOGETHER

by Raymond Grenier

UNESCO has a unique place among UN international organizations — that of a philosopher. Aware of every human concern, it promotes principles to inspire all national and international activities with a humanism that is both open and liberating.

Canada and its international development agency, CIDA, naturally share this noble aim. CIDA was one of the first official co-operation organizations to establish a mechanism for co-operation with UNESCO.

On May 31, 1973 when Mr. René Maheu, then Director-General of UNESCO, met with the President of CIDA in Ottawa to forge this link between the two agencies, only three other countries had taken steps to establish this form of co-operation — the Federal Republic of Germany, Norway and the United Kingdom. When the current Director-General of UNESCO, Mr. Amadou Mahtar M'Bow, paid a visit to CIDA in April of 1975, he reiterated the importance of this permanent link between his organization and CIDA.

As is well known, UNESCO is the United Nations organization which promotes scientific, educational and cultural development in an effort to foster international peace and closer relations among nations. Its task therefore gives it a preoccupation with communications.

Education and communications

The activities of CIDA and UNESCO often overlap in this vast field. The most striking example of this is educational television in the Ivory Coast. This teaching method was first studied and proposed by UNESCO specialists. CIDA subsequently expressed an interest in the project and since 1972 it has contributed \$13.4 million, including \$2.5 million in loans, to carry it out.

Seven years ago, approximately one hundred young students from the Ivory Coast were taught in this manner. The number had risen to 140,000 in 1977. Canadian participation in this project, which has consisted mainly in printing education material, will end in 1980.

UNESCO was also responsible for establishing the Centre for the Study of



A television journalism course being taught by a CIDA co-operant, Monic Lessard, at CESTI in Dakar, Senegal. CESTI was established by UNESCO and is now administered by CIDA.

CIDA photo: Michel Faugère

Information Sciences and Techniques (CESTI) in Dakar, Senegal. CIDA later took over the administration and a major part of the operations of this institution. As part of the Centre's activities, students receive training in Canada. It is encouraging to note that 97 per cent of former CESTI students are currently working in the communications field.

While CESTI and the educational television project in the Ivory Coast show the direct relationship between UNESCO and CIDA activities, these two examples alone give an incomplete view of the many fields where the work of the two agencies overlaps.

Like CIDA, UNESCO is especially interested in integrated development projects with educational and cultural components.

Thus CIDA, in financing an integrated regional development program in Colombia through a \$13.5 million loan and a \$500,000 grant, contributes to an undertaking which has already captured the interest of UNESCO.

Functional education

CIDA has also been involved in an integrated development project in Mali. One of its main components is the elimination of illiteracy, an area of concern which has been clearly defined by both UNESCO and CIDA.

Mr. Jules Savaria, a CIDA co-operant, is no stranger to the problem of illiteracy. A Canadian, he holds a bachelor's degree and a doctorate in sociology and anthropology from the University

of Montreal, and studied at the University of Dakar. His studies and research have confirmed that campaigns like the one in Mali to eradicate illiteracy must be designed to help people assume responsibility for their own personal development and must be closely connected with day-to-day life.

The aim of these campaigns is no longer individual but truly social — to educate communities so that they can run their own affairs and make decisions for themselves. It is this approach, the promotion of what is now called functional literacy, that has been applied in the Mali project.

In a region of the country where cotton is grown, the villagers see the advantages of being able to read and write when they can estimate crop yields and the amount of fertilizer needed and can manage a small pharmacy. They even levy taxes.

Several countries have expressed an interest in the literacy campaign carried out in Mali, and the National Film Board has made a two-hour film about the project entitled "Our Village".

Multilateral approach

In addition to contributing directly to UNESCO's budget as a member country (\$291 million in 1977-78), Canada is helping, through multilateral channels, to finance projects implemented by UNESCO as part of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP).

Canada allocated \$37 million to the UNDP in 1977-78. During the past fiscal year the UNDP entrusted UNESCO with the task of executing projects worth a total of \$82 million.

UNESCO'S WORKING DEFINITION OF CULTURE

CULTURE IS A DYNAMIC VALUE SYSTEM OF LEARNED ELEMENTS, WITH ASSUMPTIONS, CONVENTIONS, BELIEFS AND RULES PERMITTING MEMBERS OF A GROUP TO RELATE TO EACH OTHER AND TO THE WORLD, TO COMMUNICATE AND TO DEVELOP THEIR CREATIVE POTENTIAL.

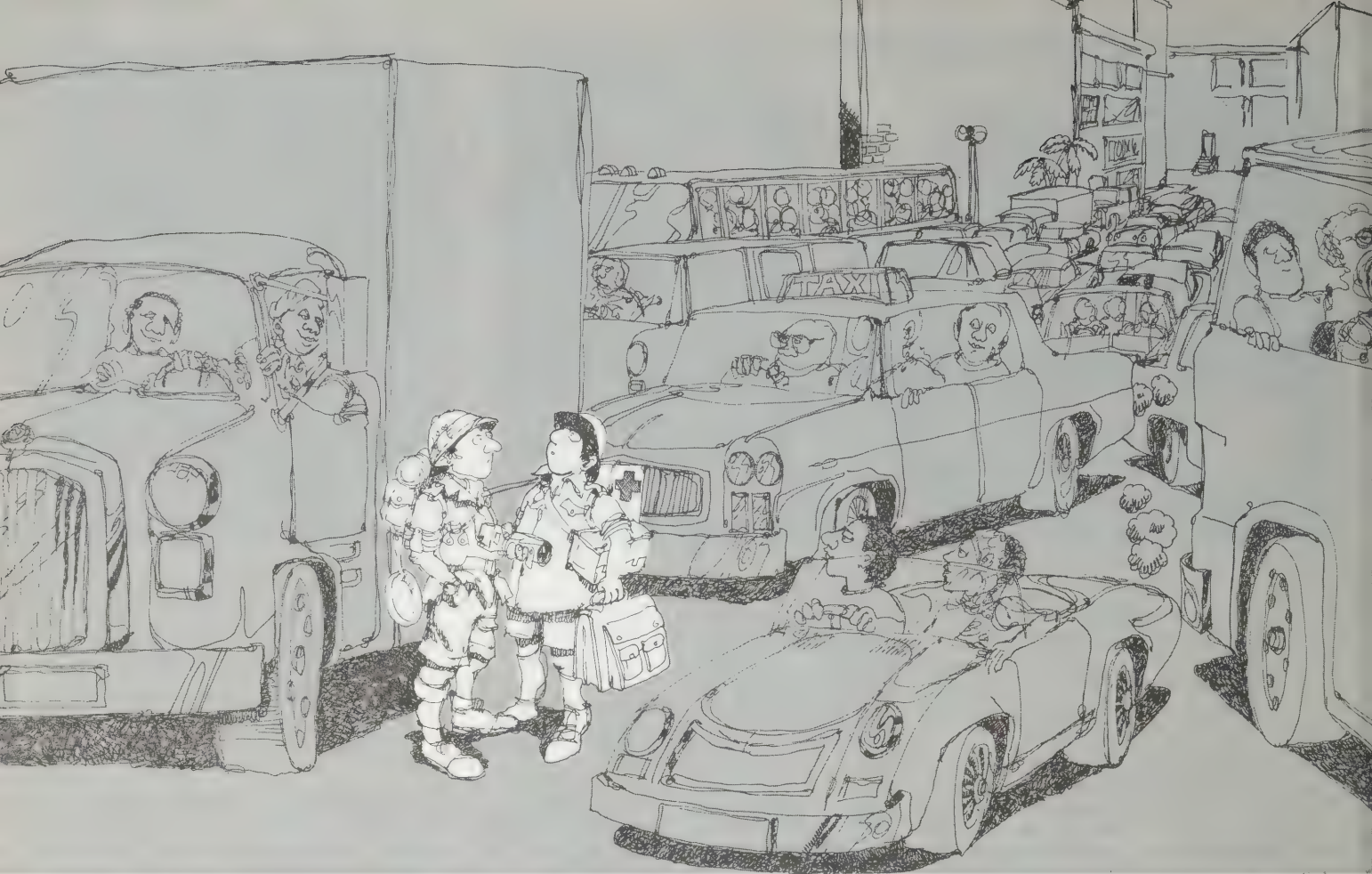
As a result of the ties between the two agencies, CIDA is continually informed of UNESCO projects which would benefit from CIDA's involvement. These projects are then submitted to the various CIDA area divisions which are in a position to judge whether or not multi-bilateral action should be taken.

CIDA also lends its support to agencies which come under the authority of UNESCO. It has allocated \$1.15 million to the International Institute for Educational Planning since 1970 and supports the activities of UNESCO's regional offices for education in Dakar and Bangkok. CIDA also allocates funds to an international information and studies service on new teaching methods, which was created at the suggestion of Canada in 1972, and has offices at the International Bureau for Education.

In 1978 CIDA made funds available for artists from Third World countries to come to Man and His World in Montreal to participate in a festival at the UNESCO pavilion. The event succeeded in giving Canadian and international exposure to the cultural talents of many so-called developing nations.

Responsibility for the agency's liaison with UNESCO has been held until now by Mr. Louis Bérubé, a well-known educator and special adviser in his field. He plays an important role at meetings and conferences such as those of ministers of education from Third World and industrialized countries. **DD**

Raymond Grenier is an editor for CIDA's Public Affairs Division who worked for many years with UNESCO.



FROM BRITISH COLUMBIA TO KENYA

by Roger Levett

An adventurous group of British Columbia people has traded the Rocky Mountains and the Pacific Ocean for the wilds of East Africa.

Actually, according to Dave Pedersen of Vancouver and Dave Swan of Mission, it's not so wild, and probably the most dangerous thing in Nairobi is the traffic.

These men and four others from B.C. are part of the Kenya Technical Teachers' College (KTTC), a CIDA-supported project.

Thomas "Bud" Cowlin of North Vancouver is a machinist welding instructor, Peter Hamilton from Sooke holds a similar position in industrial arts while Roy Milner and Leonard Wrinch, both from Vancouver, are teaching in the electrical field.

They are living and working in one of the most beautiful sections of Africa.

Nairobi is a sea of brilliant color and for the most part enjoys almost perfect (if somewhat warm) weather.

There are some problems

However, there are some problems. Like many large cities in North America, Nairobi has a substantial population of poor and unemployed, which, set amidst relative prosperity, gives rise to a crime and security problem.

But, as one Canadian put it, "you take what precautions you can and then carry on. If you were constantly worried about it you wouldn't be able to stay here and be effective".

"I don't expect everything to be smart and efficient or otherwise we wouldn't be here . . . odd little incidents from day to day remind you that you are in a developing country," says Swan, who is a building construction instructor at the KTTC.

There are problems, but as Pedersen, Canadian team leader for the KTTC, says, "after a while you get used to it. I guess you get Kenyanized".

On the road to self-reliance

The instructors at the KTTC are only a few of the more than 1,000 Canadians

working in developing countries around the world. These people are on the front line of Canada's efforts to close the gap between the have and have-not nations.

They are the fine point of more than \$1 billion a year in Canadian aid funds aimed at fulfilling the basic human needs of the poorest people of the world and setting them on the road to self-reliance. CIDA's task now is to match Canadian resources and expertise with those basic human needs. It's a big task in what are often remote parts of the world.

For Pedersen, and the 32 other Canadian staff members and their families, it's a long way from Stanley Park. The lions and elephants are not in cages, the communications system is not the best and the roads are a far cry from North American standards.

However, there is another side. Soon after arriving in Nairobi, the expatriate stops commenting "what a fine day it is", because it's almost always a fine day. If you like gardening there is an apt expression here which says "stick your finger in the ground and a rose will grow out of your ear".

Furthermore, if you enjoy travel, the rest of Africa and Europe are, by Cana-

dian standards, within easy travelling distance. And of course there is the wonder of a whole new world of sights and sounds at your back door.

For those with an open mind there is also a rich culture and an entirely new way of life well worth exploring. This is not Europe with its obvious links with the North American way of life. This is Africa, where only a concerted effort and time bring understanding.

For many the African way of life is an acquired taste. Says Pedersen, "You've got to stick with it. So many times you say, 'what the bloody hell — no way is this going to work', because all the doors one after the other go bang, bang, bang. They slam tight. Crash. There is nothing, and you say 'I have done everything I can.' But you find that one door — it is not locked. You go over and turn the handle and the doors start to open again. It's a tricky game but it's fun.

Develop confidence and trust

"At times I feel we (the Canadians) are not very efficient, but the people who are making the criticism don't know what they are dealing with — the communications problems — you are dealing with a difficult system because it is a developing country.

"One of your staff may develop a program of practical application and he says 'I can get this part from town,' but the bloody thing isn't there, so he has to adjust first of all to what is available."

The trick, he says, is to develop the confidence and trust of the people with whom you are working. "It's the same as at home — flashy stuff just doesn't work."

The Canadian team is helping to establish the college, and design and set up courses for the training of teachers, who will later further the technical training of Kenyans all over the country. This and other types of Canadian aid in Commonwealth Africa amounted to more than \$100 million last year.

The KTTC is turning out people qualified to teach at the growing number of technical training institutes in Kenya. The transfer of technology is an important part of the growth of any developing country. Other industrialized nations are helping Kenya develop a network of technical training centres, but without the KTTC there would be an even greater problem of supplying qualified personnel to staff these institutions.

A vital aspect of this project is the Kenyanization of the college. Within a few years the number of Canadians

working there will begin to decline until the college is staffed and directed by Kenyans. However, for the time being, there is still much for the Canadians to accomplish.

Barriers to social involvement

While the college's Canadian staff is kept busy with work, there are other adjustments to be made in dealing with a completely different approach to life.

By way of example, Swan watched one day while a large bush buck (a type of deer) wandered out of the forest and was immediately stoned to death by a group of men. "We had this sense of compassion for the animal, which was totally absent in them. The next day I asked them why and they were incredulous that I would even consider asking the question. They said 'we did it because it was food. When an animal happens across your path you kill it and you eat it, even though it may be against the law.'"

Pedersen and Swan also agreed there are natural barriers to social involvement with the Kenyans. They say the Canadians (and other expatriates) tend to turn inward and seek each other's company.

Says Pedersen, "It can be difficult socializing with Africans you work with because of the economic barriers. It is different at the village level however. They either accept you or reject you — they don't give a damn."

There are, however, many other things to do. "We go out camping about once a month to see the country, and I am a member of the Nairobi boat club — I have a small sailing dinghy and sail on the Nairobi Dam reservoir. There is the parent-teachers association, a student-staff film society and my wife Vi loves the back street shops and native handicrafts in Nairobi."

About camping, Mrs. Swan says she was a little concerned at first. "I was a bit worried about the snakes but I haven't seen any yet. The big animals don't bother me because they are big enough to see — it's the little critters that you can't see. As long as you are in a car or tent the large animals somehow don't bother you. I haven't heard of anybody being dragged out and eaten."

Problems facing the family

In many ways life in Africa is more difficult for the wives and children than the husbands. For the most part the wives of Canadian specialists do not have the opportunity to work, even though they may be fully qualified for the work force. Even voluntary work requires work permits in many countries.

If a man goes to Africa on a CIDA contract he is usually entering a ready-made work environment but his wife must draw her stimulus from a very old, very strange and sometimes frightening culture.

The children have a slight advantage over their mothers in that they have the school environment to provide excitement. Many of the children board at international schools and so develop friends from all over the world. But still, they too must adjust. There is little in the way of movies or any of the other traditional North American distractions.

Perhaps one of the greatest problems facing a family moving to Africa is education. Pedersen has twin boys, aged 17, going to school in B.C. and a daughter, 14, attending the Nairobi International School.

"The kids all love Kenya and they relate well to the country — the two at home miss Kenya but they had to re-join their school system in Canada. It's their home and that's where they are going to have to compete.

"They are pretty disjointed in terms of what life is all about. They have a tremendous insight into some geography and the people of the world but then they come up against the hang-up of preparing for careers whether it's for a pipe fitter or an engineer — in Canada."

The interest and the challenge

Pedersen, who is a vice-principal of the Pacific Vocational Institute in Burnaby, spent three years in Malaysia, then returned to British Columbia to settle down — he thought. A year later, in September 1975, he and his family were on their way to Kenya.

"I thought I had settled down but the bug bites you — the interest and the challenge, let alone the travelling, are attractive."

Both Swan and Pedersen feel they must return home, at least to "touch base". Working in Africa is exciting and adventurous but the Canadians here feel their children cannot properly prepare themselves for life back home. They also worry about their own readjustment both socially and from a career point of view.

The life is attractive but they do not wish to follow the example of Ulysses who heard the sirens and forgot his home. **DD**

Roger Levett is a CIDA information officer specializing in Commonwealth Africa.

INTERNATIONAL CODE OF CONDUCT ON TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY

by Richard Burkart

In May 1976 UNCTAD IV decided to establish an intergovernmental group of experts to draft a code of conduct on the transfer of technology. One negotiating conference and seven expert group meetings later a rather heavily bracketed (those sections still to be negotiated) draft document has now been produced. Final agreement is expected to come out of the negotiating conference scheduled to start in October.

Developing country perceptions

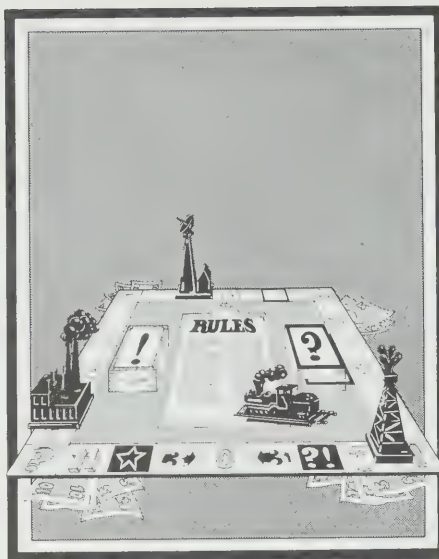
The code is seen by developing countries as a significant building block in a New International Economic Order. Technology has been identified as "the key to progress of mankind". And a significant code of conduct would represent access to this key for less developed countries (LDCs).

In broad terms the developing countries seek greater access to modern technology on more favorable terms and conditions. They seek an improved bargaining position vis à vis the multinational enterprise. They wish to achieve a commitment from the governments of industrialized countries to protect them from restrictive business practices which may be employed by multinational enterprises.

Developed country perceptions

Although developed countries initially entered the code of conduct exercise in response to LDC initiatives, a number of objectives clearly characterize their actions. Virtually all developed countries are net importers of technology, and therefore have an interest in ensuring that the code facilitate the flow of technology on terms mutually beneficial to the recipient and the supplier.

Multinational enterprises, most of which are situated in industrialized countries, have indicated their preference for clearcut "rules of the game" (transfer of technology) as an aid to their investment planning in the future.



Main obstacles to negotiations

The legal nature of the code remains a major stumbling block, with the industrialized nations supporting a voluntary code and developing countries pushing for a legally binding document.

The issue of the relationship and control exercised over subsidiaries by parent firms is complicated by the fact that a significant number of LDCs have their own multinational enterprises. It would seem apparent that a distinction should be drawn between parent/subsidiary financial transactions and transfers between two unrelated enterprises; but how this difference should be accurately described in the code is still under active debate.

A third obstacle concerns the settlement of disputes between Third World parties and multinational firms. Developing countries insist that disputes involving foreign firms operating within their borders must be settled within the framework of their own legal systems. Most industrialized countries, on the other hand, feel that the parties to the transaction should be free to negotiate, as an integral part of their contract, which nation's laws and mechanisms for the settlement of disputes would apply.

A final thorny problem is that of guarantees to the suppliers of technology. This issue encompasses industrial property rights (including patents and trademarks) and restrictive business practices.

Special Measures for developing countries

Although the code of conduct is not itself considered an aid instrument designed to assist in the development of LDCs, one chapter entitled "Special treatment for developing countries"

has already been negotiated and agreed to by all parties.

Under this agreement, developing nations will facilitate a South/South flow of technology and related information, and co-operate with each other in the assessment and adaptation of existing technologies. Furthermore, attempts will be made to strengthen their own technological capacity.

Governments of industrialized countries have agreed to support research exchange programs and to provide technical assistance for projects designed to adapt and develop technologies which would be appropriate to Third World needs.

Monitoring and implementing

Once a final code of conduct has been approved, a mechanism will doubtless be needed to monitor and implement the terms of the code. The nature of such a mechanism is still at the earliest stages of consideration. Since UNCTAD is providing the overall institutional framework for discussions, it is probable that such a mechanism will be associated with UNCTAD.

Conclusions

It is difficult to predict whether a code will make a significant impact on global technology flows. It may minimize international uncertainty and thereby encourage increased investments by multinational enterprises leading to an increased flow of technology. In that most nations recognize the significance of technology as a vital factor of production, a strong interest and will is present to facilitate increased access to technology.

Developed nations see the code of conduct as an important stage in the presently shaky North/South dialogue. As a result, they may make special efforts to ensure that the code meets a significant number of Third World demands.

However, many developing countries themselves have vital commercial interests to protect, in particular the activities of their multinational enterprises. Therefore it is likely the finalized code will be conservative in nature.

Although the negotiations could still become bogged down, the broad base of support appears adequate to maintain a healthy negotiating momentum. **DD**

Richard Burkart is program manager for CIDA's policy branch. He coordinates the agency's efforts related to the code of conduct.

DEVELOPMENT COMMENT

CULTURE: KEY TO DEVELOPMENT

by Glen A. Eyford

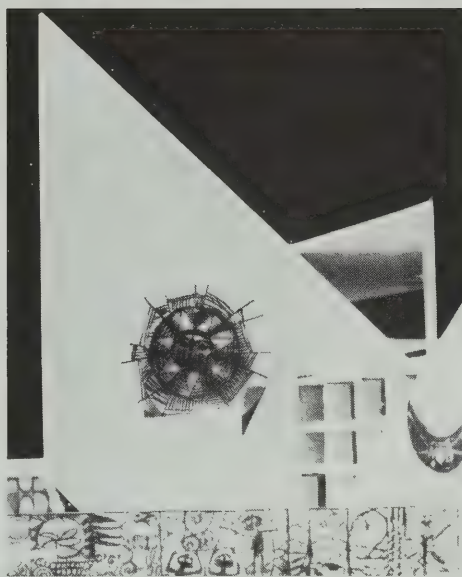
It is not unusual to think of development as a process which integrates economic, political and social objectives. However, recent experiences in some Third World countries — and with native groups in Canada — have revealed that healthy development is not ensured even when there is a careful balancing of these three objectives.

No matter how well planned and carefully administered, many international development projects have been unable to capture the imagination of the people for whom they were ostensibly designed. This missing element is difficult to define precisely, because it is more a feeling than a tangible fact, and is described variously as motivation, cohesiveness, dedication, belief, trust, awareness, co-operation, spirit, unity.

The ineffectiveness of many international development programs cannot be attributed simply to poor public understanding and acceptance, or to poor planning, weak promotion and inadequate funding, but to a more basic problem: the failure to connect proposed changes to dominant ideas, standards and practices in the society. To correct this serious deficiency, another objective — cultural development — must be added to economic, political and social development.

One particularly instructive example of cultural development objectives and strategies is provided by Papua New Guinea, a country which in 1975 proclaimed its independence from Australia and is now embarked on the difficult and challenging task of shaping its future. This country of almost three million people, divided by geography, history and 700 distinct languages, is well into the process of attempting to forge national unity and is confronted with the perplexing problem of determining how that can best be done.

Like most Third World emerging nations, it is buffeted by many forces and influences, some quite alien to its basic ideas and standards, but which hold out the seductive promise of prosperity, progress and modernization.



Model of the building of the Institute of Papua New Guinea Studies which incorporates modern and traditional design. Photo: IPNGS

Program of international assistance

Can the interests of the country best be served by rapid economic development of natural resources, aided by the World Bank, and by Japanese, American and Australian investment? Will they be served by creating a particular political ideology as the means of organizing and unifying the entire country? Should it enter into a series of international aid programs to introduce new ideas and new technology to the country? Or, as the advocates of cultural development urge, must the first steps be taken by encouraging the many different groups in the country to become re-acquainted with their history, to see how they can take part in shaping the future, to see how their image of themselves, based on a rich cultural tradition, can be adapted to contemporary challenges?

Proponents of cultural development maintain that no national development is valid unless it is rooted in the culture of the society and unless it taps the energy and spirit provided by that culture. Not to consider the traditions of the past, no matter how strange or exotic, would be to cut much of the population off from its origins and leave its members adrift in villages and in larger urban centres pushed and pulled by short-term expediencies.

Something is needed to provide a core to the life of the individual derived from the ideas and the standards of society, and it is the thinking of developers in Papua New Guinea that this can be done through a recognition of where they have been, using that and the strength which that provides, as a

means of dealing with the powerful but often conflicting forces of the present.

This conviction is expressed in the country's constitution and, this principle is reflected in many activities throughout the country. Perhaps the most remarkable work to this end has been accomplished by two agencies, the Institute of Papua New Guinea Studies (IPNGS) and the National Cultural Council.

Such agencies as the IPNGS and the National Cultural Council are giving practical examples of what it means to be Melanesian. This question of identity, origin, and national purpose is of vital importance in this society and, an important aspect of it is the recognition and acceptance of a widespread cultural diversity.

Building a strong and distinctive nation

There are at least two things to be learned from current development activities in Papua New Guinea: first, is the way in which traditional cultural values and forms have been used to interpret change, on the one hand, and, on the other, to provide a standard against which proposed innovations can be evaluated.

Second, is in the way of reminder of the need for any country to articulate clearly what kind of a nation it really wants to develop. Is Papua New Guinea to be a copy of some existing model or can its Melanesian roots provide a stronger and distinctive nation? In other words, having determined where they want to go, they are in a better position to decide what means they will employ to get there.

Inevitably — and regularly — it would seem that every society must come to terms with the big questions concerning purpose, ideals and standards. Cultural development simply asserts that this is an essential ingredient in planning and implementing development programs. **DD**

Glen A. Eyford is director of the community development program at University of Alberta. In 1978, he conducted seminars on development strategies in the Third World at University of Papua New Guinea where he was a visiting professor.

Development comment is a column of opinion on issues in the field of international development.

Readers of Development Directions are invited to send submissions to this column. Items should not be more than 1,000 words, preferably typed and double spaced.



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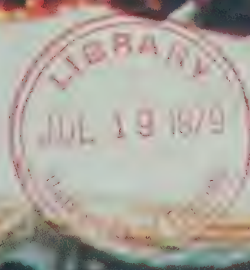
A NEWSMAGAZINE OF INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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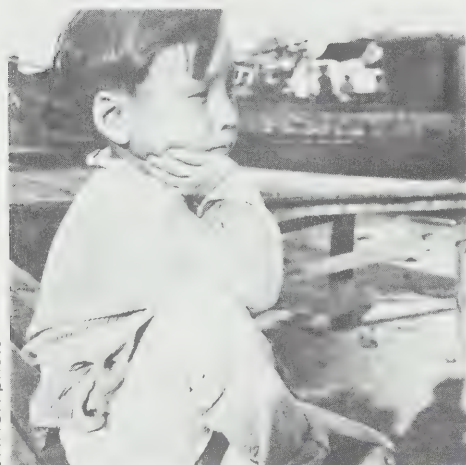
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URBAN
DEVELOPMENT



VOLUME 2 NUMBER 4



UNHCR photo

In the July/August issue . . .

The international community has declared 1979 the Year of the Child. Development Directions will take a look at an often neglected group of children in the Third World — refugees.

In 1979 half of the estimated 10.5 million refugees in the world are children. As refugees, children face the additional problem of being dependent on an adult world and adjusting to provisions of immigration laws framed with adults in mind.

Not all problems faced by refugee children are legal ones. The problems of adjusting to a new way of life, of reconciling one's national origin and past with a new country and a new future are especially difficult for children.

The article will deal with the co-ordinating role of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the efforts of some non-governmental organizations to assist refugee children caught in bureaucratic traps or in need of specialized help.

Development Directions is published six times a year by the Public Affairs Division of the Communications Branch, Canadian International Development Agency, under the authority of the Honorable Martial Asselin, Minister of State for CIDA.

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The opinions expressed in this magazine do not necessarily reflect the opinion or policies of the Canadian International Development Agency.

Development Directions welcomes letters to the editor. Submissions should be addressed to:

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Development Agency,
200 Promenade du Portage,
Hull, Quebec, Canada
K1A 0G4.

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Directions du Développement

Agence canadienne de
développement international
200, Promenade du Portage
Hull, Québec, Canada
K1A 0G4

ISSN 0705-064X

Second Class Mail

Registration Number 4353

Contract No. OKX7-1173

Beauregard Press

Printed in Canada

Cover:

IDRC photo: Roberta Borg

DEVELOPMENT DIRECTIONS

VOLUME 2 NUMBER 3 MAY/JUNE 1979

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

By the end of the century, urban population will outnumber rural for the first time in human history. This issue takes a look at urban development and underdevelopment in Third World cities.

Susana Amaya outlines the scope of the problem of internal migration in developing countries and develops a profile of the urban migrant.

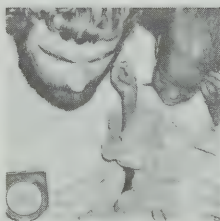
In the same vein, Terry McGee, director of the University of British Columbia's Institute of Asian Research focuses on the problems of the urban poor of Asia and challenges Third World governments to support the initiatives of the informal sector of their economies.

Jacques Vautherin informs us of an ambitious self-help project in Mauritania which hopes to transform the slum existence of nearly half the population of the desert town of Rosso.

The Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) in Bangkok is now celebrating its 20th anniversary, and Allan Thornley gives us an overview of CIDA's support for the institute. The latest initiative, financed by a \$2.2 million CIDA grant, will give special impetus to the AIT's human settlements program.

This issue also contains two articles concerning women in development. Since the UN Conference on Women (Mexico City, 1975), a series of low profile conferences on the integration of women in development has made significant steps. Lynne Racine brings us up to date on many of these initiatives, including the recent conference of rural women held in Manila. Carolyn McMaster tells us of the problems of water supply faced by the women of Malawi and of a CIDA project to improve the situation.

Paul W. Smith

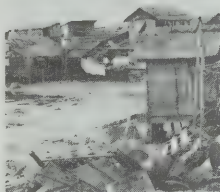


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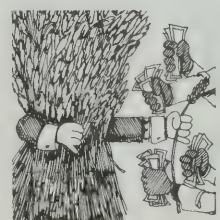
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LATIN AMERICA

CANADA PROVIDES EL SALVADOR WITH HYDRO POWER EQUIPMENT



Experts investigate the geo-thermal potential of El Salvador's volcanic areas.
UN photo

CIDA will provide El Salvador with more than \$10 million in material and equipment to boost the country's urban and rural hydro and geo-thermal power system.

Under an agreement between the two countries, Canada will provide the Central American country with \$9.3 million in loans and \$1 million in grants.

Canada's contribution is part of a multi-donor program to build a \$200 million hydro and geo-thermal project – the Centrale San Lorenzo – on the Rio Lempa, a river system that covers half of El Salvador. It includes detailed engineering studies for construction of a 100-kilometre line and power stations in rural areas for industrial and domestic users.

A Canadian consultant will be responsible for Canadian purchases and delivery while the Comision Ejecutiva Hydroelectrica del Rio Lempa (CEL) will handle logistics and construction in El Salvador.

El Salvador, the smallest country in Central America, has the highest population density of any country in the Western Hemisphere. Since agriculture cannot absorb more workers, El Salvador must expand industry to provide employment for a population that is increasing at three per cent a year.

The Inter-American Development Bank is investing \$90 million on the Lempa River project and the CEL \$78 million.

CIDA's development co-operation program with El Salvador is also aimed at developing the ocean and fresh water fisheries, tripling production of seeds for rice, beans and corn crops, and building a water system to serve 160 communities.

Canada has also provided technical assistance to the country's National Planning Agency and some short-term scholarships for training in Canada and Latin America.

CANADA AND ISRAEL TO BUILD DAIRY FARMS IN DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Canada and Israel have agreed to co-operate as donor countries to help the Dominican Republic build a major dairy farm settlement during the next five years.

This agreement will be the first trilateral arrangement undertaken by CIDA.

Canada expects to spend up to \$3 million on the project, mostly on dairy equipment and Holstein cattle while Israel, which has years of agricultural experience in arid zones, will provide most of the know-how.

The dairy farm project will be an extension of a successful Israeli settlement program, a blend of private and co-operative activities, begun nine years ago in an arid area of the Dominican Republic.

The Israelis helped settle about 500 Dominican families in the area and taught them how to irrigate their land and make use of appropriate farming techniques for this type of desert agriculture.

The objective of the project is to establish 170 additional families in the Azua Valley who would become involved in milk production and processing for themselves and other farmers in the region.

The project will create employment opportunities, optimize the use of arable irrigated land by developing fodder production, establish a marketing system and help integrate the people of the Azua Valley into the social and economic development of the Dominican Republic.

The Dominican Republic has agreed to provide infrastructure and housing as its contribution to the project.

Canada has recently completed its participation in a project in the Dominican Republic to upgrade rural living conditions by extending electrical service to about 140,000 people in 160 farflung communities. Canada's contribution to this project was in the form of a \$7.5 million loan administered by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB).

Canada is also contributing \$2.9 million to a \$137 million irrigation and flood control scheme designed by the IDB to recover 50,000 hectares of parched land in the Savana Yegua River basin area of the Dominican Republic.

AFRICA

DOUALA PORT PROJECT PROGRESSES WELL



The Canadian built floating dock will service up to 500 tons of shipping.
CIDA photo

The CIDA-assisted project to enlarge the port of Douala in Cameroon promises to make the docking facilities there the most modern on Africa's west coast by the end of this year.

A new floating dock designed to service up to 500 tons of shipping was recently installed at Douala. It was built at Shipyard G in Prince Edward Island with a contribution of \$3 million (520 million CFA francs) provided by CIDA.

Canada's financial support of the first phase of the Douala harbor project also includes construction of the fishing port's superstructures and the provision of a dredge costing \$12 million (2.2 billion CFA francs).

Canada's total contribution to the project is \$30 million (about 6 million CFA francs). Canada is also helping build the Cap Limboh SONARA-NPA complex

which includes constructing an oil refinery and a deep-water harbor for heavy cargo shipping.

There are now more than 22 CIDA-assisted projects completed, underway or being negotiated in Cameroon. André-Paul Desrosiers, deputy regional director of CIDA's Francophone Africa Division, recently met with Simon Ngann Yonn director-general of Cameroon's National Ports Authority to discuss the Douala port project and with other Cameroon officials to discuss other CIDA-supported development efforts in that country.

HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

CANADA INCREASES ITS FUNDING OF UNHCR

Canada has doubled its annual contribution to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to \$2 million this year.

Canada is also making a special contribution of \$700,000 to UNHCR's 1979 Indochinese refugee program in response to an international appeal. Canada's special contribution, in two instalments, will be made by CIDA. A cheque for \$450,000 has already been forwarded and the remainder will follow later this year. Last year CIDA made a \$500,000 special contribution to UNHCR's 1978 Indochina program.

The Indochinese refugee problem has escalated and now involves the whole South-east Asia region where people are fleeing overland from Democratic Kampuchea, Vietnam and Laos. Thailand is now harboring about 140,000 refugees, primarily from Laos and Kampuchea.

Another major refugee problem in the area is the Vietnamese "boat people." Their numbers have increased in the past year to about 8,000 a month from about 3,000. The pressure of this influx on countries of first asylum — such as Malaysia and Thailand — is becoming insupportable.

Canada reiterated its full support to UNHCR and played a major role in encouraging efforts to find a permanent solution to the Indochinese refugee problem at consultations in Geneva convened by UNHCR last December. At that time, Canada announced it would take 5,000 Indochinese refugees in 1979.

RED CROSS APPEAL FOR AFRICA



A Red Cross delegate examines a malnourished child in a clinic established by the Ethiopian Red Cross in Asim, Wollo. LRCS photo

CIDA has agreed to contribute \$750,000 to the renewed appeal of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) for its humanitarian relief activities across Africa.

The cash contribution brings the total CIDA response to the appeal to \$1.75 million.

Not since the Second World War has the ICRC been engaged on so many fronts in so many countries at the same time. In Africa alone civilian and military victims of eight international or internal conflicts are receiving ICRC assistance. They are in Zimbabwe/Rhodesia, Namibia, Angola, Zaire, Chad, Western Sahara, Eritrea and Ogaden.

Most of the war victims are in the bush or the desert in regions difficult to reach.

The ICRC provides protection to all victims, both civilian and military, who do not take a direct part in hostilities.

More than 60 ICRC delegates, with about 100 African staff, are at present serving in Africa. Most of them work in trying conditions and sometimes physical danger. Last May three delegates were killed in Zimbabwe/Rhodesia, the latest additions to a long list of ICRC delegates who have given their lives in Africa and elsewhere for their humanitarian cause.

In May 1978 the ICRC launched its initial appeal to the international community and to all members of the Red Cross movement to help meet the

humanitarian needs arising from the various conflicts taking place in Africa.

Canada responded to this first appeal with a contribution of \$1 million.

CIDA

OECD REVIEWS CANADA'S DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

A review of Canada's development assistance efforts on behalf of developing countries received both praise and criticism from the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

The DAC committee as part of its regular annual review of member countries' programs noted with concern that Canada's official development assistance net disbursements have declined in relation to gross national product. In 1978 Canada's development assistance declined to approximately 0.52 per cent of GNP from a high of 0.55 per cent in 1975.

The examining committee looking at Canada's report was composed of representatives from fellow DAC member countries Japan and the Netherlands. It expressed disappointment at the prospect of a further decline in the percentage of Canada's GNP devoted to official development assistance activities as a result of federal government decisions in 1978.

The Canadian delegation declared, however, that reduction in planned expenditures was an unavoidable response to temporary difficulties and that the Canadian government's commitment to international development remains undiminished.

The committee noted, that for the fourth consecutive year, Canada's total net official and private flows of financial resources to developing countries exceeded 1 per cent of its GNP.

The committee remarked on several other positive elements in Canada's aid program including that the grant portion of financial commitments is high and that financial assistance extended to the least-developed countries has been entirely in grant form since 1977.

The committee also remarked that Canada's loan terms to developing countries are among the most concessional of the DAC members — the bulk of Canadian loans to developing countries are interest free for 50 years.

Other positive aspects noted by the committee were that a high priority is given by Canada to the poorest countries and that Canada makes efforts to overcome obstacles so that the least privileged parts of the population in recipient countries — often in co-operation with non-governmental organizations — receive Canadian aid.

Canada's official development assistance program is the fifth largest among DAC countries in absolute terms. It is exceeded only by France, Germany, Japan and the United States.

CONFERENCES

ENCOUNTER '79: CURBING CLOSE ENCOUNTERS IN THE THIRD WORLD

by John de Bondt
CIDA, Public Affairs Division

"We don't want too much garbage from way over there."

That's what a harried editor at the London, Ont. Free Press said when reporter Joe Matyas handed in his second story resulting from Encounter 79, a conference on population held at University of Western Ontario April 18-21.

The apparent indifference to the woes of the developing countries shocked Third World delegates, but sounded familiar to the working Canadian journalists present, and prompted Malcolm Muggeridge to remark that, though "garbage" was an unfortunate choice of word, he nevertheless felt some sympathy for the editor.

The revelation came during a candid session in which journalists from industrialized and developing countries exchanged views on the role of the press in reporting population matters and Third World news in general.

The evening meeting followed two solid days of lectures and statistics on all aspects of "the population problem" — itself a term denounced by some as "a typical First World view — blaming the problem on the victims."

Like so many international gatherings of this type, the conference saw impassioned Third World delegates hurl accusations of exploitation at the First World, Canadian delegates feeling duly castigated, and members from both groups discovering over drinks afterward that they were all human, quite decent chaps really and allow me to buy you a second round.

There was Professor T.N. Krishnan of Trivandrum, Kerala, India spluttering statistics like a leaking garden hose; Kumaresh Chakravarty of the Press Institute of India saying that development is the best contraceptive; Lester Brown of the U.S.-based Worldwatch Institute dripping doomsday figures all over the place and promptly being accused of neo-Malthusianism; Peter Adamson, founder of the New Internationalist magazine, pointing out there is plenty of food but the poor can't afford it; Malcolm Muggeridge doing his thing as the world's best sit-down comic; and affable Tarzie Vittachie of the U.N. Fund for Population Activities summing it all up in a flawless and wonderfully relaxed mixture of wit, anecdote and profound truth.

There were other speakers, too, all distinguished and earnest, all pointing out that bettering the lot of the poor is preferable over dropping condoms from the sky, all preaching to the converted, making the whole affair rather like a religious revival meeting.

The fact that many working journalists did not show up was attributed to the election, but the media types that did attend got caught up in the spirit and took part enthusiastically in the discussions. Warner Troyer, of CBC radio's Sunday Morning program, was there, and so were other representatives from the CBC, The Toronto Star, The Globe and Mail, the Kitchener-Waterloo Record, and CFPL radio. Barrie Zwicker of Content magazine took part, as did freelancers Gordon Donaldson and Hugh McCullum.

In addition to its hapless reporter, the London Free Press also sent its managing editor and an editorial writer. The incident with the frustrated editor was perhaps an unfair comment on the paper — it is one of Canada's better ones, with extensive foreign coverage and thoughtful editorials.

The overall result of the CIDA-sponsored conference was that the working press — those who came, at least — became very interested in Third World problems. Canadians have often rejected CIDA pronouncements as so much government propaganda; perhaps they'll find the no-name product from regular journalists more acceptable.

LUSAKA MEETING TO CONSIDER COMMONWEALTH INDUSTRIAL CO-OPERATION

A decision on whether to start a program to promote industrial co-operation to benefit developing Commonwealth countries is expected in August at the Commonwealth heads of government meeting in Lusaka, Zambia.

The first formal round of discussions on the topic was held in March at the first Commonwealth ministerial meeting on industrial co-operation in Bangalore, India. The conference was attended by delegations from 27 Commonwealth countries. The Canadian delegation was headed by Lewis Perinbam, vice-president of CIDA's Special Programs Branch.

The initiative for the Bangalore meeting grew out of talks between Canada's Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau and President Nyerere of Tanzania at the 1975 Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in Kingston, Jamaica.

A group of industrial specialists was convened by the Commonwealth secretary-general to prepare specific proposals for a Commonwealth Program of Industrial Co-operation. The Bangalore meeting in March considered the recommendations made by this group.

The group recommended a framework for the industrial co-operation program which includes the establishment of an industrial development unit to be created within the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation (CFTC); initiatives to encourage and assist small-scale entrepreneurs from Commonwealth developing countries to learn from their counterparts in other developing and developed countries; and a role for the Commonwealth secretariat in promoting, supplementing and linking bilateral and multilateral programs of co-operation in the industrial sector to enable the developing countries to benefit from them.

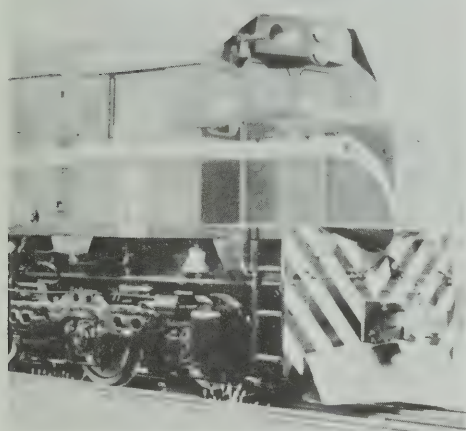
At the Bangalore meeting, the ministers also considered a proposal to establish a Commonwealth venture capital company. This issue is also expected to be discussed at the August meeting in Lusaka. In addition, a working group formed at the Bangalore meeting is expected to report on its examination of alternative arrangements to meet the need for equity capital for industrial enterprises in developing countries, the type of institution required, possible

sources of finance, in addition to operational methods and management.

The ministers agreed that an additional sum of approximately \$11 million should be sought from Commonwealth governments to implement the program for an initial three-year period.

AGRICULTURE

\$10 MILLION LOCOMOTIVE LOAN FOR PAKISTAN



Pakistan will receive 30 similar locomotives built by General Motors of Canada. General Motors photo

Canada will provide a development loan of up to \$10 million to help Pakistan purchase 30 Canadian-built locomotives.

The diesel electric locomotives, manufactured by the Diesel Division of General Motors of Canada at its London, Ontario plant, will replace 30 older diesels which in turn will replace 45 antiquated steam shunter locomotives, some of which have been in service since the First World War.

Half the cost of the new locomotives will be funded by a CIDA loan of up to \$10 million. Pakistan will match these funds from its own foreign exchange resources.

Efficient rail freight is of crucial importance to agricultural and industrial efforts in Pakistan, where most flows consist of bulk cargo, such as wheat, rice, coal, fertilizer, cement and cotton. Rail is the cheapest way of moving bulk freight over long distances, and Pakistan Railways has improved its efficiency in recent years through a program of operational upgrading carried out in co-operation with the World Bank.

The new diesel electrics, which are similar to other Pakistan Railways

equipment already operating, will help the system reduce down time and move toward profitability.

It is estimated that manufacture of the 30 locomotives, including orders placed with suppliers, will generate about a half-million man-hours of work in Canada. This is not expected to create new jobs, but it is sufficient to sustain the equivalent of some 250 existing jobs for a year.

Canada has assisted Pakistan's rail sector in the past by providing rolling stock and is currently helping to carry out a low-cost re-engining scheme in which new engines are being put into 47 old locomotives, giving them a new lease on life.

CREDIT FOR FARM IMPROVEMENT IN INDIA



Through access to agricultural credit, Indian farmers can benefit from new and better farming methods. World Bank photo: Philip Boucas

Thousands of small farmers in India will double their meagre incomes through a \$15 million development loan from CIDA.

The funds will be used to give more farmers throughout India access to agricultural credit, so they can benefit from new and better farming methods. Canada's contribution, provided in parallel with funding from the World Bank, is part of a much larger program being carried out by the Agriculture Refinance Development Corporation (ARDC) of the Reserve Bank of India. The World Bank's International Development Association (IDA) will provide US \$200 million, and a further \$415 million will come from Indian sources (government, banks and borrowers). The total amount involved is US \$628 million.

Small farmers in regions of India where agriculture lags are the special targets of the massive program. Its goal is to increase rural income by providing more agricultural credit so farmers can improve their production. Most of the funds will finance small-scale irrigation works.

The Canadian contribution will be provided on the usual terms for most CIDA development loans: interest-free, with repayment over 50 years and no payments during the first 10 years. Funds will be used essentially for investment in farm improvement, through the purchase of local goods, such as pumps, livestock and materials. Loans will be made to farmers through normal lending institutions and will be refinanced, appraised, monitored and evaluated by ARDC.

It is estimated that an average ARDC credit almost doubles the income of a small farm and that Canada's contribution will result in loans to some 75,000 farm families generating about 13 million days of productive employment.

LOSS OF ARABLE LAND IN THE THIRD WORLD A CRUCIAL DEVELOPMENT PROBLEM

A July conference on Agrarian Reform and Rural Development will remind governments that thousands of square kilometres of land are lost to productive use each year due to erosion, flood damage, salinization, alkalization and advancing deserts.

The purpose of the world conference is to design a new rural development strategy for the developing countries in the 1980s which will combine economic growth with an effort to overcome the worst features of rural poverty.

The Rome conference will be the fifth major world meeting on agricultural problems since the United Nations was founded in 1945. Nearly all nations of Asia and the Pacific region are expected to take part.

More than 100 countries around the world suffer serious problems of land deterioration. By the year 2000, there will be half as many more people to feed as there are at present and in the same period the world could lose a large part of its arable land. Africa, according to FAO, could suffer more than other developing regions.

NEW FILM

EXPLODING CITIES



CIDA photo

Produced by the National Film Board for CIDA
30 minutes, color.

reviewed by Blaine Marchand

The belief that cities offer an opportunity for 'the good life' has been persistent since ancient Greece. Today, the impact of this myth is even more prominent and it is estimated that by the year 2000 two out of three people will be urban dwellers.

Exploding Cities, directed by Tina Viljoen, examines the impact of this myth on the rural Third World poor who are migrating to cities in increasing numbers. The film dramatically and comprehensively considers the causes and hardships of migration, and some of the successes and failures of programs of governments, development agencies and planners designed to alleviate the problem.

Leaving infertile farms, gruelling poverty and disease, the rural people are drawn to the city in the hope that proximity to employment opportunities, schools and hospitals will better their own and their children's lives. The swelling cities cannot accommodate the hundreds of millions who come each year.

Water and sewage systems cannot cope. But the major problem remains housing. In cities in Pakistan, Senegal, India, Nigeria, Colombia and Mexico shacks have become a luxury among the urban poor and many families are forced to eat, sleep and even die on the streets.

The argument put forward in Viljoen's text is developed logically. The film draws on the expertise of people directly involved in the Third World. Jorge Harody, of the Instituto Torcuato di Tella in Argentina, points out that attacking such a dynamic and unpredictable problem with master plans, zoning and building codes is not the answer.

Too often housing plans are taken lock, stock and barrel from industrialized countries, using high technology, imported materials and large amounts of capital. The result is large standardized blocks that ignore regional geography, local traditions and customs, family size and age-span.

Priced beyond the means of the poor, the housing becomes accommodation for the middle-class and only succeeds in drawing to the city more and more rural poor who have heard of the improved housing schemes. The expanding number of urban dwellers makes cities ripe for disease, unrest and violence.

"Governments, development agencies and planners must be flexible, experimental, and make better use of existing local techniques and resources," Harody says. Luckily, this is being done. Officials in Pakistan, Colombia and Zambia, for instance, have embarked on schemes which emphasize self-help rather than governmental provision.

The questions posed by the films are skillfully illustrated by footage taken from films made for the 1976 United Nations Conference on Human Settlements. Juxtaposing scenes of the homes of the rich and the shacks of the poor quietly comment on the text.

With a grip that won't let you go, the footage insists the viewer look at the core of the situation, at the degrading and dehumanizing squalor that these people endure day in, day out.

But the film does not rest there. It does not pretend to offer easy solutions. Faster than new schemes are being devised, the population is swelling: in Brazil, three and a half million new urban dwellers every year; in Mexico, one and a half million, enough for a new city the size of Vancouver every 18 months. After 10 years of massive efforts, housing conditions in developing countries are worse than ever.

Produced for CIDA by the National Film Board (NFB). "Exploding Cities" is successful because it is not just self-

congratulatory. It perceptively questions what has been and is being done. It suggests that governments and development agencies go beyond the city to alleviate the source of migration: the rural hardships that compel people to exchange rural poverty for urban squalor.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT

JOINT CANADA-FRANCE MEETING RESULTS IN CO-OPERATIVE EFFORTS

In order to increase co-operation between French and Canadian efforts in the area of international development, the French Ministry of Co-operation and CIDA decided last June to arrange a joint seminar on rural development.

The seminar was held in Hull, Quebec, early in March under the joint chairmanship of Mr. G. Herledan, chief of the rural development service of the French Ministry of Co-operation and Gérard Ouellette, director-general of CIDA's Natural Resources Division.

Despite certain differences, the seminar revealed problems common to both the Canadian and European participants. Agreement on the following principal rural development objectives was therefore reached with relatively little difficulty:

Rural development is a highly complex socio-economic process which must take place over an extended time period; rural development must aim at helping the entire population, not merely agricultural producers; the integration process must focus on a minimum number of factors in order to meet major needs; and rural development projects must make provision for and encourage the development of local institutions rather than relying on government institutions.

As expected, differing opinions between the French and Canadian delegates, as well as among the Canadians themselves, were expressed on the methods of achieving these goals. Lively debate surrounded questions such as the usefulness of cost-benefit analyses in planning and carrying out rural development projects; the advantages and disadvantages of projects involving multiple donors; and infrastructure size.

Another such meeting is planned for the fall, so participants can study more closely the subjects touched on at the March seminar.

CIDA'S SUPPORT FOR HUMAN SETTLEMENTS IN ASIA

by Allan Thornley
CIDA, Public Affairs Division

In Bangkok, one form of Canadian help to Asia is coming to an end while a new type of assistance is just beginning. The story involves the Asian Institute of Technology, a decade of Canadian co-operation in "third-country training", and a new effort to focus on the human settlements approach to development explored by the Habitat Conference at Vancouver in 1976.

"Third-country training" is more than a bit of development jargon. It represents one of the most positive changes in international development over the past two decades, the sensible arrangement whereby people from developing countries receive advanced training under relatively familiar conditions, at a regional institution located usually in a neighboring country, rather than in Europe or North America.

The Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) in Bangkok, one of the world leaders in third-country training, is now celebrating its 20th anniversary. Its roots go back to 1959, when a school of graduate engineering was created on the campus of Chulalongkorn University. In 1967 it became the AIT, chartered by the Royal Thai Government as an autonomous international institution of higher learning. Today it is an internationally recognized centre of engineering excellence, and a major regional resource in Asia's effort to reach higher levels of economic and social development.

Co-operation between Canada and AIT has been partly responsible for this positive contribution to development in Southeast Asia. Since 1970, CIDA has provided more than \$3 million to finance about 180 scholarships, some equipment, ten regional conferences, and the service of Canadian members on AIT's faculty. Hundreds of talented students from many Asian countries — especially Thailand, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, India, the Philippines and Pakistan — have thus been able to prepare themselves to take part in their countries' development efforts. A survey some years ago indicated AIT's program was having a marked regional effect, with 95 per cent of graduates



In Asia's cities, squatter settlements are swelling rapidly creating massive needs for shelter, employment, clean water and other services.

IDRC photo: Roberta Borg

working in Asian governments, industries and universities.

This CIDA contribution has also allowed AIT to sponsor conferences on subjects of importance to the region's developing economies and to hire Canadian and Asian faculty members.

In a relatively short time, AIT achieved its primary goal: to alleviate the critical shortage of highly-trained engineers in the developing countries of Southeast Asia.

Now, Canadian support to AIT will take a new direction. One of the most pressing world problems today is rapid growth of cities: by the end of the century urban population will outnumber rural for the first time in human history. The cutting edge of this process is seen in the countless bustees and kampongs, favelas and ranchos of the Third World's swelling cities, where it is estimated that 75,000 more people arrive daily, creating massive needs for shelter, employment, clean water, health care and other services.

As Barbara Ward has written, this is the greatest "wandering of the people" in all of history, and our attempt "to get a coherent grip on the issue of the human habitat" is exceedingly difficult, since this habitat includes everything, all aspects of human life.

On April 4 Ambassador Bauer presented a cheque to AIT launching a program of Canadian support to the Institute's efforts in the field of human settlements. Over the next five years CIDA will finance third-country scholarships, educational activities and information work to help AIT expand its human set-

tlements program, created in 1977 to strengthen previous work at AIT in this direction.

The emphasis on human settlements is an attempt to break through some of the problems that have hampered past development efforts. As AIT explained in the plan of operations for its new division: "The human settlements approach focuses on the spatial units of society — its regions, cities, villages and communities — as the appropriate units for the implementation of social and economic development. This approach aims at reaching all people, particularly those now being neglected, and bringing them into the orbit of improvement and advancement."

The new Canadian initiative, financed by a \$2.2 million CIDA grant, will give special impetus to the human settlements program. It provides for 125 scholarships for graduate studies in human settlements development for students from Southeast Asian countries. It will also finance a variety of educational efforts — research, short courses, demonstration projects, conferences, and field visits by students — as well as paying for the sharing of information on human settlements development, and a small amount of equipment.

The program itself is already in progress. It has three main goals: (1) educating high-quality manpower for human settlements planning, development, management and education; (2) research in human settlements in the Asia region; and (3) dissemination of information. As of September 1977, 23 students from 13 Asian countries were enrolled and more students from 16 Asian countries applied for entry in 1978.

It is estimated that when the present agreement between AIT and Canada nears its completion in 1984, close to 200 Asian students will have obtained Master's degrees in human settlements development. Approximately 125 of them will have benefited from Canadian scholarships, 25 from AIT scholarships, and the balance from scholarships financed by other donors.

With past Canadian support to AIT in its ninth consecutive year in 1979, Canada and AIT will have enjoyed an uninterrupted and productive decade-and-a-half of co-operation by the time the new agreement ends. Their joint efforts will have helped Asia to tackle two of its priority tasks: preparing highly-trained Asian engineers for development work, and facing up to the huge challenge and opportunity of improving the settlements where Asia's people must live their daily lives. **DD**

WHY DO PEOPLE MIGRATE TO THE CITY?

by Susana Amaya

Internal migration in developing countries is a highly visible problem. In fact, 65 per cent or more of the adults in many of the large expanding cities of these countries are migrants from rural areas.

The urban problems resulting from this movement are particularly visible to politicians and planners: the circles of slum housing around the city, the cost of extending services to ever-growing suburbs, water shortages, and a general administrative confusion because of overlapping political jurisdictions.

Who migrates?

The fact that a high proportion of the "problem" population in the slum area may be migrants with little education and of poor rural origins has reinforced stereotypes that all migrants to the city are of poor farm backgrounds. But is this so? Who migrates and why they do has been the topic of numerous studies during the past 10 years.

As the Migration Review Task Force of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) points out, the characteristics of the migrants are generally well known. It is known, for instance, that the motivation behind migration is economic, that is, it is a search for employment and security. Studies also show that most migrants are young adults who have higher education levels, and that the more education they have, the more likely they are to migrate to the city.

More Latin American women migrate than men, and they generally head for metropolitan areas where work is available. Men, on the other hand, often move to distant settlements or to areas where there is seasonal agricultural work. Friends or relatives living in the cities help perpetuate the migratory flow, and once in the city, most migrants will tend to settle near them.

Limited work opportunities in the rural sector

Three very important economic and social factors that have traditionally limited work opportunities in the rural sector determine rural-urban migration in Latin America: the structure of landholding, low agricultural productivity, and the rapid increase of population.



Internal migration in developing countries is a highly visible problem.
IDRC photo

Economic opportunities cannot keep pace with population growth. Furthermore, low productivity and the prevailing form of landholding — concentration of property in a few hands — seem to be related; productivity is lower on large estates than it is on small landholdings.

Workers are encouraged to migrate to cities by the better wages offered there.

Technological innovations that bring about an increase in worker productivity can stimulate migration by reducing work opportunities. However, several authors indicate that agricultural modernization can also produce the opposite effect by making formerly uncultivated lands productive, thereby providing new work opportunities. Ecological damage and soil erosion due to excessive land use can also cause the population to move.

Class conflict

Another recent factor is class conflict: for example, in Colombia, the period of rural upheaval known as "the violence" that began in the 1950s sparked major migratory movements of the rural population to urban areas.

Initially it was thought that the migrants arrived directly from their place of origin to the city. It has been established, however, that this process is not so simple and occurs in stages, determined by the structure of the urban settlements in each country. Little is known about the migrations from rural areas to small towns and intermediate cities since most studies have focused on the large cities.

Effects of migration on place of origin

As to the effects of migration on the places of origin, no significant changes seem to occur in the labor market and wage levels of these areas. Migration can alter the age structure in the places of origin, however, as a result of the exodus of the youngest, most productive and most capable people. For the same reason, the natural growth rate of the population may decline.

Despite the dearth of studies and the use of indirect evidence on the effects of migration on the destination areas, it is clear that migrants do, in time, improve their economic situation and that the labor force in these areas grows as a result of the migration of young, productive people. A person with training will be able to use his ability and the untrained individual can acquire an education; migration will make social mobility easier and therefore contribute to the system's stability.

One major claim made about migration is that mainly illiterate peasants migrate to the city and crowd into slums, which become centres of social upheaval. However, no empirical evidence exists to link social and political instability to migration. Indeed, most migrants are better prepared for urban life than is generally thought, or they adapt very quickly to it; many, in fact, come from small- or medium-sized towns.

Migration studied in isolation

Although considerable knowledge has been acquired on population movements much remains to be studied, and there are important points on which future research efforts would do well to concentrate. For instance, little information exists on the effects of migration on the receiving communities and on the communities of origin, and on the impact of government policies on migration. This phenomenon has frequently been studied in isolation and not as a variable in the development process.

Urban development in Latin America will continue to expand. The time has come, says the Migration Review Task Force, to carry out more studies on the impact of social and economic development policies that may lead to population redistribution patterns that will enhance over-all development. **DD**

(This article is from the International Development Research Centre monthly feature service which provides articles on scientific, technical and educational subjects pertinent to development.)

A MODEL TOWN IN THE DESERT OF MAURITANIA

by Jacques Vautherin
Secretary-General of ADAUA

Rosso: a border town on the Senegal River. Of its 25,000 inhabitants, 12,000 live in dwellings made of oil drums, boards and salvage. Located at the edge of the desert, Rosso is treeless, frequently flooded by the rains, and in the words of Ahmed Sidi Baba, former construction minister, "is undoubtedly the dirtiest town in all of Mauritania."

The work of ADAUA

ADAUA (the Association for the Development of Traditional African Urbanism and Architecture) provides technical assistance in the housing field and carries out development work in close co-operation with local communities, particularly the poorest.

At the request of the Mauritanian government and SOGOGIM, a state-operated construction company, ADAUA made contact with Rosso and set up a fact-finding mission composed largely of Mauritians. The aim was not merely to parachute a few experts into Rosso, but to reach an understanding of the real needs of the people. When the framework for the project had been drawn up and its financing was more or less assured by (rather sceptical) international co-operation, a team formed study workshops in Rosso to examine social issues, architecture, town planning, and local materials.

At grips with technology

One of the first objectives was to use locally-made materials. A brick kiln was needed and CIDA contributed \$50,000 toward this venture through its international NGO division. (To date, Canada's total contribution to Rosso is \$150,000.) The first bricks produced in the kiln were used to construct a number of model houses. This was done to inspire the people's confidence and encourage them to co-operate in the project.

Since the people of Rosso had been deceived by past promises, they were cautious at first; then, realizing that for the first time something was going to be done not for them but with them, they began to believe in the project. Information sessions and work meetings were organized, and credit unions set up in each neighborhood in Rosso.



Nearly half of Rosso's inhabitants live in dwellings made of oil drums, boards and salvage. ADAUA photo



Houses in the process of construction. ADAUA photo



The new houses reflect the traditional architecture of Mauritania. ADAUA photo

As a result of its urbanization proposals and its plans for dealing with sanitation problems, the architecture and town planning workshop achieved credibility in the eyes of the authorities in the capital. The government unofficially made it known that the land formerly refused to shanty town dwellers would be allocated to them, provided decent buildings were constructed. At the beginning of last year, construction began on the first 12 dwellings, and a lime kiln was built to obtain a stabilizing agent for cement from sea shells.

This new industry keeps money in the community, and new jobs have been created. A team composed entirely of Mauritians is being trained to take over the project, and has already taken charge of certain aspects. The people are involved in all activities from the beginning, and models of the homes

are being built with the help of their future inhabitants.

The future

The sanitation system will be the major test of the people's participation. A dike three kilometres in length must be constructed, requiring everyone's co-operation.

The results of this urbanization work are encouraging: the domed houses are attractive, the craft industries started or planned seem to be coming along well, the bricks are resistant, and the people believe in the project.

These deprived people are trying to take charge of their lives. It is not a question of providing them with technology or medicine, but of listening to them and supporting them in their efforts to realize their most legitimate dream: to enjoy the right not merely to survive, but to live. **DD**



Hawkers in the informal sector sell a major part of the food supplied to Asia's cities.
IDRC photo: Roberta Borg

PROBLEMS OF THE THIRD WORLD URBAN POOR

by Dr. Terry McGee
Director, Institute of Asian Research
University of British Columbia

United Nations projections, while admittedly crude, suggest that the total world population living in urban centres of 20,000 or more will grow by 1.3 billion to 2.3 billion between 1970 and 2000. Almost one billion of the increase will occur in the cities of the Third World. This shift will only raise the over-all level of urbanization of developing countries from 19 to 31 per cent, although some parts will be much more urbanized. For instance, Latin America will have well over 50 per cent of its population living in cities.

Three points should be emphasized. First, the numerical dimensions of this projected increase represent an urban explosion in the Third World. Secondly, much of this numerical increase will

occur in the South and Southeast Asian region dominated by the huge populations of India, Bangladesh and Indonesia. Thirdly, urbanization on this scale raises very real questions of the capacity of Third World countries to absorb this large volume of people into their urban areas.

Already their cities are characterized by severe problems in the provision of sufficient productive employment, adequate housing and urban infrastructure, which are reflected in the growing numbers of urban poor who eke out an existence in the so-called informal sector.

Of course, it may be argued quite correctly that the urban poor at present make up only a small proportion of the total poor of the Third World, but unless there are dramatic changes in the economic structures of many Third World cities their numbers will continue to escalate.

In 1975 the World Bank estimated that there were some 900 million people living on incomes of less than 30 cents (US) a day in the Third World who are considered to be in a condition of poverty. Of this figure, some 700 million were located in rural areas and 200 million in urban areas. Given the rates of

urban expansion this 200 million will almost certainly increase substantially over the next 25 years.

National governments have been slow to recognize the significance of this large and growing population of urban poor. City and national governments have reacted to the existence of the Third World urban poor essentially as blockages to the development process, "people who get in the way . . .", as one writer has labeled them. Thus governments have often adopted policies of squatter removal, arrested hawkers in the streets and closed down small domestic industry because it does not measure up to laws designed for large industries.

Planners and engineers concerned with the task of making the Third World city function have been equally hostile to the poor of the city, because their activities appear to prevent this aim. Becaks (trishaws) block the streets and prevent the easy flow of motorized transport, and squatters usurp land needed for commercial or industrial development. Thus the planners advocate relocation of these activities to the fringes of the city, or their complete removal.

Often their viewpoints are buttressed by a series of stereotypes of the poor that reinforce the desire to eliminate their activities. Sometimes the urban poor are considered a source of revolutionary challenge to the government. More often stereotypes about the urban poor are more specific. For instance, in Southeast Asia it is not uncommon to hear government officials say that hawkers often have a large new car parked somewhere behind their stall, or that squatters are really quite wealthy and choose to live in their poor accommodation to avoid taxes.

The accuracy of these stereotypes is certainly open to doubt, but planners and politicians are anxious for progress, and the priorities of an efficient city seem more important than the priorities of the urban poor.

However, over the last ten years there has been increasing evidence that these government policies and attitudes towards the urban poor are misguided, because they are based on a misconception of the role and features of the Third World urban poor. Numerous studies emanating from international agencies and individuals have begun to emphasize that the inhabitants of the informal sector, which include a large majority of the urban poor, are performing important economic functions particularly in situations where employment opportunities in the modern wage sector are growing only slowly.

These studies emphasize that the informal sector is an extremely heterogeneous sector which plays an important role in the effective functioning of Third World cities. Positive measures such as the granting of legal tenure to squatters or permission to sell goods in the streets without harassment leads to substantial economic upgrading and mobility.

This is perhaps best illustrated by evidence from a study of Southeast Asian hawkers carried out under the auspices of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC). This study revealed that while there were varying attitudes towards hawkers in the Southeast Asian cities under investigation, most city administrations regarded them as anti-developmental and were suspicious of their roles and activities in the cities.

Stereotypes mentioned earlier prevailed. However, actual research into the activities and features of the hawkers indicated that they played a significant role in the cities' economies. For instance, hawkers sell a major part of the fresh and cooked

food in the cities under discussion. The complex networks of location, distribution and exchange in which the hawkers are engaged work remarkably well even in large urban agglomerations such as Jakarta.

The fact that they are often family operations and have virtually no overhead such as rent, enables them to offer food very cheaply, and the personal networks of distribution ensure reliable delivery of foodstuffs. Indeed, all evidence suggests that in situations where hawkers are forced to cease operations, it is the lower-income population who suffer. This also has wider external effects on the wage levels and general economy of the city.

In addition, the existence of such populations whose economic operation is largely based on the family allows more flexibility in work allocation. Rural migrants move back and forth between the rural and urban areas. Children mind the stalls while parents are away. It is a remarkably efficient system in situations where there are large low-income populations.

Ultimately, of course, adoption of a series of positive measures to encourage the activity of the urban informal sector cannot be divorced from programs of national development, which seek to increase over-all productivity and employment in rural areas.

There are always dangers in developing programs aimed at alleviating urban poverty; they may act as incentives for an increased flow of rural migrants. It is extremely important that such programs be set within the context of national development plans. But there are often problems of inadequate liaison between national and city authorities.

Faced with a situation in which Third World cities appear to be nothing but reservoirs for the overflow of rural poverty, it is easy to become fatalistic. However, there are a variety of policies which city and national governments can adopt to assuage this fatalism. These policies must be based upon the positive approach of viewing poverty as a national problem involving citizens who are genuinely doing their best to cope with a situation over which they have little control.

Moreover there must be acceptance of the fact that the activities of the poor may be used to further the cause of development. For example, low-income transportation such as becaks, offers the possibility of employment flexibility and cheapness which more modern forms of transport cannot provide unless heavily subsidized by the public sector.

Also numerous studies of squatter settlements indicate that this housing, especially if it has tacit approval of the public authorities, will experience rapid upgrading and that it forms a major part of the housing of Third World cities.

By recognizing the positive aspects of these low-income activities rather than attacking them, governments can help greatly. Then as economic development occurs, governments can adopt more active public policies such as building low-income housing, building public markets, and improving and expanding public transport systems.

The success of these schemes can be greatly aided by the provision of accurate data on the features and activities of the urban poor. It is here that development assistance can have a significant impact through the encouragement of local researchers' activities as well as direct assistance to schemes for improving the quality of life of the urban poor. The pioneer activities of the IDRC have had an important impact on low-income housing, migration, and the food distribution systems of these cities.

To conclude, it may be argued that one of the major burdens the Third World urban poor must carry is government policies designed to restrict their activities. Most of these measures are, of course, only small-scale actions which will not make the poor more impoverished or more wealthy, but will make their lives more difficult.

The problem of completely eliminating poverty is a much larger one which has not been solved even in the world's richest societies. There seems little likelihood then, given the dimensions of the urban growth of the Third World and the extremely uneven pattern of economic growth, that the poverty problem will be solved in these cities. In such a situation, the dynamic aspects of the economic activities of low-income populations should be encouraged and not prohibited by policy makers. **DD**



REACHING THE GRASSROOTS: RURAL WOMEN TALK DEVELOPMENT

by **Lynne Racine**
CIDA, Public Affairs Division

High profile international conferences seem to be forgotten almost as soon as they are over. When a plan of "action" is agreed on, it seems to take forever for the solemn pronouncements to be turned into practical reality.

The United Nations Conference on Women (Mexico City, 1975) was no exception. But a series of low profile conferences on the integration of women in development have been making significant steps. Most recently, the International Council of Women invited delegates from all parts of the globe to participate in a Colloquium of Experts and a Seminar on Leadership Training for Rural Women in Manila, Philippines.

Some 600 participants from 85 countries attended and most of them were from the low-income rural areas of their countries.

A turning point for rural women

CIDA's representative was Roxane Carlisle, Co-ordinator for the Integration of Women in Development. In her words, the Manila meeting was a "turning point for rural women — it had more impact at the grassroots level than Mexico". She said there was "an exciting exchange of ideas" and the conference was "germinal — the delegates felt they were part of a group — they learned techniques for making contacts with government and techniques for establishing village networks".

Mrs. Carlisle noted that large quantities of informative literature were given to the rural leaders to give them tips on everything from initiating income-producing projects to providing social services to meet basic human needs.

The delegates left Manila with "a lot of work to do," she said. "They had to go back to their governments to obtain financing, facilities and the means to communicate with other women."

Mrs. Carlisle emphasized the importance of this communication at the

grassroots level. "In Mexico," she said, "representatives came mostly from the urban elite. The real progress in development will emerge from the villages," she explained.

Many international development agencies have concentrated their efforts in the rural sector as part of their policies for the second development decade (1970-80). It is the rural areas that have lagged behind in the economic progress of developing countries. The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization estimates that rural women in the developing countries number about 1 billion, and out of this number, about half are gainfully employed, mostly in agriculture. In Africa, 70 per cent of the rural labor force is made up of women, and South-east Asia does not lag far behind. It is these rural women who were represented at Manila.

Varying degrees of progress

The participants at the Manila conference came from countries with varying degrees of progress in the area of women's organization. The national councils of women in India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Philippines and Thailand are highly-organized, for example. Their main task was to broaden the network at the village level.



Some African women and several from South Pacific countries, on the other hand, spoke of the need to set up national councils. Government interference, lack of government support, or lack of facilities and training were the obstacles they identified at the conference.

The Latin American women, like the Asians, were well organized, but their major problem was political identity. They were the most politically-oriented group and wanted to work through political channels to have their governments value and provide economic assistance for domestic work, women's labor and small industries.

But despite the level of organization, all groups suffered from a common problem: the lack of a unity of purpose between governments and women's groups. This gap was identified at Manila and the conference recommended that delegates contact their local government representatives with a plan of action to try to develop government interest in a national council for women.

The conference also demonstrated the value of communication between national councils (where they exist). Delegates from the South Pacific countries

noted their common regional problem of insularity, and the need for regular networks of communication among the islands.

The importance of communication with outsiders was also noted. Representatives of donor agencies told participants how a person in a village could go about contacting a local non-governmental organization (NGO) or an outside NGO, such as Match (a Canadian group working with Third World Women), or a donor agency such as CIDA.

One workshop focused on marketing techniques and pricing, how to place a value on one's work and one's product. Work on such practicalities is an encouraging sign that some of the abstract recommendations drawn up in Mexico are assuming more substance.

One in a series of meetings

The Manila meeting was one in a series of international meetings that have focused on women's concerns. This is where the Mexico conference did serve a purpose. It heightened international awareness that women were being left behind in the process of development.

Other international meetings have included a Colloquium on Women in

Development organized by Mrs. Carlisle and held in Ottawa in June, 1977. Representatives of 11 donor countries identified 13 basic needs and urgent problems of development facing women. Among them are the need for participation of women in early stages of development planning, the legal obstacles affecting women's economic progress, equal access to training scholarships, the need for communication among donors on the subject, the problem of women's access to credit, and the need for a special program in aid agencies devoted to women's needs.

Out of the Ottawa meeting came another session in March, 1978 at the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in Paris. The OECD conference reached the consensus that "women should be treated not as a separate group in aid programs, but as a conscious concern within the framework of integrated projects — in which, until now, the women's component has been missing".

Participants recommended preliminary studies before the start of projects to understand local customs and traditions regarding the role of women, and also suggested that methods for freeing women from domestic duties to participate in training activities and income-producing activities be investigated. They noted that the situation of women often deteriorates as a result of the modernization process, unless special steps are taken to avoid it.

Another meeting of donor countries is to be held in Washington this fall to look into ways of establishing concrete links between the donor agencies and non-governmental organizations in the area of women in development.

Women have also been the subject of meetings at United Nations agencies, such as the UN Industrial Development Organization, which held a meeting of experts from developing countries last November in Vienna on the subject of women in industry.

Progress on a less spectacular front

So although the media seemed to lose interest after women's year, the work of women's decade (1976-85) goes on, and the people and institutions concerned about the integration of women in development are making progress on a less spectacular front.

The real progress is in the developing countries themselves. According to Mrs. Carlisle, women's groups in Pakistan, Colombia and Ghana became organized in the 1960s and had leaders to send to Mexico in 1975.

In Bangladesh a woman by the name of Tahrussa Ahmed Abdullah is the leader of a project to upgrade the welfare of women, improve their access to government resources, and draw them more fully into the development of rural Bangladesh. CIDA is assisting in this work, which is part of a massive World Bank population project (see Development Directions, November/December, 1978).

It is basic to the development strategies of donor countries to support the developing countries' own efforts. For this reason the mobilization of women at the grassroots level by local leaders is of paramount importance and it is in this context that the Manila conference was significant.

Non-governmental organizations work closely with self-help groups at the community level. CIDA's NGO Division has made an important step to ensure that women's concerns are taken into consideration. In "request for project financing" documents sent to NGOs, the division insists on a precise identification of each project's target group: that is, men, women, children, the aged, or the community as a whole.

CIDA's multilateral program actively supports UN programs which have a specific impact in assisting rural women. Such programs include UNICEF, the UN Fund for Population Activities, the UN Development Program, the World Health Organization and UNESCO. In the Fifth Replenishment of the Inter-American Development Bank, Canada pushed for a greater policy orientation toward aid to the rural and urban poor. As a result, 50 per cent of the Bank's total lending in the next five years will be devoted to these target groups with 25 to 30 per cent going to the agriculture sector. Women and their families are bound to benefit from this emphasis.

CIDA's bilateral program has built a social impact component into the approval and evaluation process. The exact beneficiaries of a project will be identified as will the potential negative effects of any project on the target group.

Women often neglected

This type of approach is a necessary improvement over former methods where development planners tended to overlook the impact of projects on specific groups. In its publication, "The Missing Half", the FAO gives the example of a poultry project that neglected to provide for the extra water required. The task of fetching more water fell on the women.



Rural women in St. Lucia are active in WINBAN, a CIDA-supported project designed to improve the production and marketing of bananas.

CIDA photo: Felix Kerr

Women are often neglected in the organization of training sessions for newly introduced technology in sectors where they are traditionally employed. The FAO gives the example of dairy processing and animal husbandry in India, which usually rely on women's labor. Of the several thousand dairy diplomas awarded in India, the FAO reports only a few have been granted to women.

Women constitute the majority of the world's illiterate population and yet they are largely responsible for the education of children in their formative years.

If women are to participate in the economic progress of their countries, they must be taken into account at least in the sectors where they are employed or implicated: agriculture, health, education, nutrition, home economics, population, handicrafts and cottage industries.

There is so much Western development planners have to learn about culture and native customs in the developing world. The FAO states that the first people needing to be developed are the developers themselves. The West is beginning to find the tools to study the role of women in developing societies. As a result of the Mexico conference, the UN Research Institute for Social Development has a program of statistical research on the situation of Third World women. In addition the International Centre for Research on Women was set up in Washington to act as a clearing house of information on women. The Latin American Demo-

graphy Centre (CELADE) in Chile has done extensive computerization on Latin American women.

So some positive and practical effects have come out of the International Conference on Women in Mexico. It remains to be seen if the goals set for 1980 (see sidebar) will be met, but the 1980 conference may serve to provide a further stimulus for the practical work of governments and community groups interested in the economic advancement of women. **DD**

A FIVE-YEAR MINIMUM

At the United Nations Conference on Women in 1975, delegates set the following goals for the first five years of the Decade for Women (1976-85). In 1980 there will be another world conference to review what progress has been made.

The goals are:

- a marked increase in literacy and civic education of women, especially in rural areas;
- coeducational technical and vocational training extended to women and men in the industrial and agricultural sectors;
- equal access to education at every level, compulsory primary education for all, and action taken to prevent school dropouts;
- increased employment opportunities for women, reduction of unemployment and greater efforts to eliminate discrimination in the terms and conditions of employment;
- equal eligibility to vote and to seek elected office;
- greater participation of women in policymaking positions at the local, national and international levels;
- increased provision for health education, sanitation, nutrition, family education, family planning and other welfare services;
- recognition of the economic value of women's work in the home, in domestic food production and marketing and voluntary activities not traditionally remunerated; and
- direction of formal, nonformal and lifelong education toward the reevaluation of man and woman, in order to ensure their full realization as an individual in the family and in society.

From the condensed version of the UN World Plan of Action for the Decade for Women, published by the Women's Equity Action League, Washington, D.C. **DD**

MAKING WOMEN'S WORK EASIER IN MALAWI

by Carolyn McMaster
Commonwealth Africa Division

Most Canadian housewives take for granted that a virtually unlimited supply of clean water is as close as the nearest tap. For many women in developing countries, however, providing water with which to cook and wash can involve a walk of up to five miles each way to a stream or water hole. Not only is this a time consuming task, but it can also result in the spread of diseases from contaminated water.

The UN Conference on Water (1977), recognizing that access to clean water is a precondition to effective health programs, set 1990 as a target date for all people to have access to a minimum amount of safe water (estimated as six gallons daily). Because of the financial implications or a lack of commitment on the part of the government, this target will be difficult if not impossible to achieve in some countries. Yet, Malawi, one of the poorest of the developing countries, is well on its way to reaching that goal through the introduction of low cost gravity fed piped water schemes which succeed through a combination of appropriate technology and local enthusiasm.

Village women spend hours fetching water

Ninety per cent of Malawi's population live in rural areas, and agriculture is the mainstay of the economy since the country lacks mineral resources. In the rainy season, November to March, all areas have adequate supplies of water. As the dry season progresses, rivers and wells dry up and many hours are spent by the village women fetching water.

The first technique used to provide safe water in rural areas was the digging of boreholes. This proved to be expensive, both for the initial installation, about \$4,000 or \$30 per capita, and for annual maintenance. Maintenance work, moreover, must be done by a special team. The Ministry of Community Development and Social Welfare, began experimenting in the late 1960s with gravity fed piped water schemes.

The principle underlying the system is simple. Using an intake from a peren-



The CIDA-supported project will supplement earlier efforts to improve water supply in Malawi.
IDA photo

nial stream above the level of cultivation, the water is put through a sedimentation tank and then piped down through diminishing sizes of asbestos cement and pvc pipes. Standpipes are put in at points along the smaller pipes, and surrounded by a concrete apron to permit excess water to drain away. Approximately two hundred people are served by one standpipe. Storage tanks along the pipeline permit water to accumulate during quiet periods.

A large self-help component

The novel ingredient in the development of these systems has been the large self-help component. In some countries it has been found that relatively complex systems put in without consulting the users become quickly inoperable because of the need for an ongoing maintenance program beyond the competence of untrained villagers, and for expensive spare parts.

In Malawi, the villagers involved decide whether or not they want a water system in their area, and make that decision with a knowledge that it will involve many hours of hard work. The Government, with the assistance of church groups and donor agencies, provides funds for materials, transport, and the wages of skilled workers to construct the tank, but all trench digging and pipe laying is done by the villagers.

The initiative for a request usually comes through the district development committee. The ministry of community development and social welfare

then surveys the area, assessing the quality and quantity of the water supply and plots the course of the pipes. Once the line has been marked, tank construction and digging are carried out throughout the dry season. The villagers organize themselves into groups, each with responsibility for a section of the trench. Everyone joins in, men, women and children, and there is a strong sense of ownership. The culmination of their work comes with a ceremony to open the tap.

Maintenance of the system is minimal. Well-travelled paths are situated beside the route of the pipes. Any leaks are quickly spotted, and repairs done under the supervision of a local volunteer who has attended a short training course.

Better health through access to clean water

The positive effects of the schemes on health was shown during a cholera outbreak in 1973-74, when the number of cases in areas with access to clean water was significantly lower than in neighboring areas without water schemes. Since the full benefit of clean water can only be realized if accompanied by good sanitation habits, an increasing emphasis is being placed on preventive health care programs in rural areas.

The systems have proved so successful that over four hundred thousand people have been supplied with clean water to date at an average cost of only \$5 per capita.

The Government's plan calls for all areas which can support such systems to be offered the opportunity to participate by the end of the 1980s. It is estimated that two million people can be served by gravity fed schemes. There is no lack of donor support to provide the financial inputs; CIDA, for example, is providing \$960,000 for seven schemes. The credit for this impressive achievement, however, must go to the Malawians themselves and to the strong spirit of self-help which has permitted the development of these low cost and very effective schemes. **DD**

UNCTAD V PREVIEW

by Jeff Endrst
UN Correspondent

The UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in Manila, May 7 through June 1, will provide the international community with its first opportunity to take a comprehensive view of problems and chart a course for the 1980s.

The hope is that the fifth session of UNCTAD could help shape new approaches and policies by both developed and developing countries towards a new world economic order.

Need for structural change

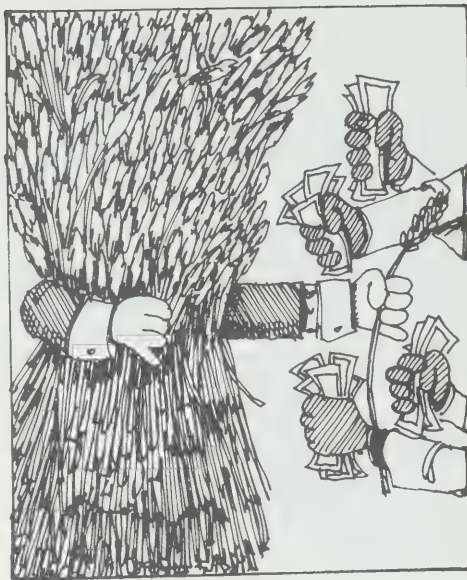
To the developing countries, the current crisis of the world economy underlies the need for structural change. To the industrialized countries, it suggests that a protracted period of slow economic growth, unemployment, inflation, monetary instability and payments disequilibria, calls for radical changes in prevailing North-South relationships.

The situation attests to the failure of the existing international system to provide adequate support for the development efforts of the Third World. It also confirms suspicions that the UN-sponsored International Development Strategy for the 1980s will not prove effective. It is already clear that the main targets of this strategy for the low-income developing countries will not be met.

In the period 1970-1977 the average rate of growth of per capita Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in these countries was only 1.2 per cent per year, compared to a Strategy target of 3.5 per cent. In the hardcore of the least developed countries, the rate was only 0.7 per cent.

The aggregate outstanding disbursed debt of the Third World stood at US \$300 billion in 1978 and is rising sharply. These countries suffered a \$30 billion trade loss last year. Because of intensified and discriminatory protectionist restrictions on Third World exports, these countries argue that they must bear a disproportionate share of the global burden of readjustment to the economic crisis.

The energy crisis is not on the agenda for UNCTAD V. But it is certain to crop



up repeatedly as the villain which has put the world on economic skids since 1973 at an ever-increasing speed.

The 1980s: decade of hunger?

The food issue is on the agenda, and the lack of food at reasonable prices for the most needy countries has been linked to developments in the oil market. The 1980s had been designated by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) as the decade in which malnutrition and hunger will be eradicated. Instead, the FAO now fears that the 1980s could become known as the "decade of hunger".

Despite three successive years of bumper crops in most parts of the world, there are between 450 and 1,300 million hungry people in the world, depending on one's definition of hunger. Last year a handful of donor countries, Canada among them, gave nine million tons of grains in grants or low-interest loans to needy countries. But according to FAO officials, they are reluctant to commit themselves to a long-range program of steady food supplies to needy countries at firm prices they can afford.

The World Bank estimates that it would take some \$40 billion in investments to increase food production in the Third World to a level of self-reliance by 1985. But only about 20 per cent of this sum is available at acceptable terms to the have-not countries.

FAO officials point out that the United States and Canada alone account for 80 per cent of all grain exports. They worry that a series of poor harvests in North America could lead to mass starvation in many parts of the world. In such a situation, they say, food, which is already seen as a political commodity, could become a subject of market speculation.

Breakthrough on a Common Fund

Not everything before the Manila Conference will look gloomy. There has been a conceptual breakthrough in recent negotiations on a Common Fund for an integrated program for commodities. The broad character and dimensions of the Fund are now set.

Negotiations on individual articles, covering the various commodities to be included, still lie ahead. The foundation that has been laid is for an innovative institution that will exercise its functions in the sensitive but vital area of world trade in commodities. It will also embody a new pattern of representation in the decision-making process to which the developing countries are willing to commit substantial resources themselves. UNCTAD V is expected to give impetus to further negotiations on the Common Fund so that it could be put into effect sometime in 1980.

The Manila Conference will also focus on the need for structural change which entails reform of the institutional framework of international economic relations. This involves the rules and principles which govern international flows of trade, technology, money and finance through such institutions as the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, GATT and the World Intellectual Property Organization which registers industrial patents. The relative control by the have and the have-not countries over the world's diminishing resources is also on the agenda.

UNCTAD V will in effect reopen the stalled North-South dialogue on a ministerial level. It will resume the process towards the UN Development Strategy for the 1980s. The final version of that strategy will emerge from the next special UN General Assembly session on a new world economic order.

Objectives of the new strategy

The outlines of the new strategy are based on the following objectives:

- bringing about far-reaching changes in the structure of world production;
- substantially increasing food and agricultural production in the Third World and providing access for these products to markets in the industrialized countries at fair prices;
- promoting industrialization in the Third World so that by the year 2000 these countries would account for at least 25 per cent of the total world industrial production;
- improving the terms of trade of the have-nots;
- increasing the flow of resources, in real terms, to the Third World on a predictable, continuous and assured basis. **DD**

THE POLITICS OF FOOD PRODUCTION

by Ijaz A. Qamar

Agrologist

Manitoba Department of Agriculture

Norman Borlaug, an internationally-renowned agricultural scientist and Nobel Peace Prize winner had an important message for world political leaders during his visit to Winnipeg last year. He suggested that political leaders should be subjected to a non-food diet for two weeks, the last three or four days with no water, before they set their national budgets. That way they might learn how to better sort out basic social values.

Similarly, R.G. Anderson, who works with Dr. Borlaug at the International Centre for Improvement of Wheat and Corn in Mexico City, had a word of advice for the urban majority whose opinions play a very important role in electing political leaders. The Canadian-born cereal expert said the world must produce as much food in the next 40 years as was produced in the previous 10,000 years.

He noted that environmentalists have impaired the abilities of food producers to expand production and that decisions on the use of fertilizers and insecticides lie with the urban majority. He suggested that a little starvation by the decision makers before they restrict the use of fertilizers would markedly help the cause of increasing food production.

Another well-known Canadian, David Hopper (now a regional vice-president of the World Bank), told a symposium on Canada and World Food, held in Ottawa, that the politics of food is the politics of economic development and economic growth. There is politics of food within the developing countries, within the developed countries and there is politics of inter-action between rich and poor nations.

The politics of food has international ramifications which transcend the narrower concerns of individual states because food is fundamentally different from other goods used by human beings.



On earlier occasions, Dr. Hopper has argued that the process of inducing national development is pre-eminently a political one, yet political scientists and leaders have so far generally failed to discharge their responsibilities to those who seek help in guiding change.

Politicians have a central role in offering guidance about the political and social balances implicit in the decisions about moves toward modernization. It is for these decisions the suggestion of Drs. Borlaug and Anderson are very pertinent and timely.

I recently had a chance to visit my alma-mater, the University of Wisconsin (Madison Campus). I was intrigued to learn about a Wisconsin Hunger Project in which more than 100,000 persons in the United States and abroad have enrolled. They are taking responsibility for making an end to starvation — "an idea whose time has come."

One may participate in that project by contributing money, by fasting, by enrolling another person or by creating his/her own form of participation. In an introduction to this hunger project, I noted the following statement:

"Each year 15 million human beings die of starvation! In the last seven years alone more persons have died this way than from all of the wars, revolution and murders of the last 150 years. As you are reading, 28 persons are dying each minute as a result of starvation, most of them children. Starvation seems so immense that, in futility, we choose to ignore it. And yet the National Academy of Science issued a report last year which stated that we have the ability to end starvation in 20 years. The crucial factor is the will to achieve that goal. The truth is that there is no scarcity of food to feed the

world's population. There is no lack of solutions through which nations can eliminate hunger. Since World War II, 32 nations with 1.6 billion persons have ended starvation, using a variety of economic and social approaches.

"If we can eliminate starvation we can go a long way in checking the uncontrolled growth of the world's population. Parents in impoverished countries do not have large families because they are stupid, but because they have no certainty that their children will grow up to work the land and care for them in their old age. Starvation exists as a result of the economic, political, sociological and psychological forces of the world. These forces operate in a condition of irresponsibility, avoidance, controversy and confusion.

"Slavery is no longer accepted in our world, so there is no slavery. When starvation is no longer acceptable, events will occur which alter and transform the forces which create it . . ."

The main message which emerged from the recent International Cereal and Bread Congress in Winnipeg was that the continued existence of man is at stake in a population-food equation. This imbalance in a large majority of cases is not caused by physical and agronomic impediments but by a lack of proper incentives (institutions, prices, tariff structures, etc.) from the political systems internally and internationally. That's what the above-mentioned widely known figures and the Wisconsin Project seem to impress upon us.

Grand ideas can be launched only by human wisdom and vision which is the monopoly of neither the North nor the South. Both must work in unison or both will suffer the consequences. **DD**

Development Comment is a column of opinion on issues in the field of international development.

Readers are invited to send submissions. They should not be more than 1,000 words, preferably typed, and double spaced.

大東飯店



DEVELOPMENT DIRECTIONS

A NEWSMAGAZINE ON INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

JULY/AUGUST 1979





Canadian International
Development Agency

Agence canadienne de
développement international

VOLUME 2 NUMBER 5



In the September/October issue. . .

The development-environment connection is a major theme of many international endeavors this year. If the goals of sound development—a better living environment for everybody—are ignored or overridden, nations may get growth but they do not have development.

Unless, for example, the international community can help to check the destruction of the Third World's forest cover by offering "forest colonizers" a better alternative than the "slash and burn" clearing method of their ancestors they will be gradually decimated by starvation following massive soil erosion and desertification.

Since the 1972 UN Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm, the issues in the development-environment relationship have been clarified.

Jeff Endrst discusses the main issues and Erik Eckholm of Worldwatch Institute contends that shrinking forests threaten us all. CIDA's forestry program will also be examined.

Development Directions is published six times a year by the Public Affairs Division of the Communications Branch, Canadian International Development Agency, under the authority of the Honorable Martial Asselin, Minister of State for CIDA.

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The opinions expressed in this magazine do not necessarily reflect the opinion or policies of the Canadian International Development Agency.

Development Directions welcomes letters to the editor. Submissions should be addressed to:

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K1A 0G4.

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Development Directions est également disponible gratuitement en français sous le titre Directions du Développement. Toute demande doit être adressée au responsable de la diffusion.

Directions du Développement

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développement international
200, Promenade du Portage
Hull, Québec, Canada
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ISSN 0705-064X

Second Class Mail
Registration Number 4353

Contract No. OKX7-1173
Beauregard Press
Printed in Canada

Cover:

This farmer in Pakistan and others throughout the Third World need development assistance to ensure adequate food production and distribution will benefit the world's hungry.
CIDA Photo: Paul Huddleston

DEVELOPMENT DIRECTIONS

VOLUME 2 NUMBER 4 JULY/AUGUST 1979

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

This issue of Development Directions takes a look at a particularly pressing Third World problem—refugee children. International Year of the Child is an especially appropriate time to discuss and find solutions for this long-term and ongoing development concern.

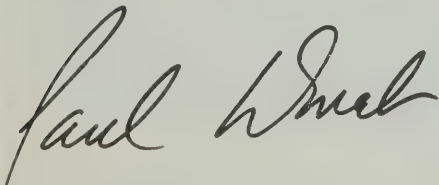
This is also a year of major development-related international conferences where representatives from both North and South sit down together to try and come to grips with the often conflict-ridden issues of trade, science and technology policy, oil resources and food distribution.

Gary Fairbairn reports on the first-ever international conference on the future of heavy oils with particular emphasis on the developing world held in Edmonton at which the government of Alberta announced its ground-breaking support of a UN centre to distribute information on heavy oil and oil sands to developing countries.

Development Directions editor, Sharleen Bannon presents a background piece on the upcoming World Food Council session to be held for the first time in Canada.

Also in this issue is a preview of the major issues to be discussed at the UN Conference on Science and Technology for Development and Jeff Endrst analyses the effects of the fifth UN Conference on Trade and Technology on the developing world.

Special thanks to the following people for their help in preparing this issue of the magazine: Richard Burkart, Hans Hermens, Raymond Grenier and Guy Gervais.



Paul Doucet
Editor-in-chief

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TRADE

**CANADIAN NGOs
DISAPPOINTED IN UNCTAD V**

Observers from four Canadian non-governmental organizations involved in international development returned from the recent United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD V) meeting in Manila to report with dismay that they saw "a retreat from Canada's traditional position on the forefront with positive proposals at this type of forum."

The observers also said that "this lack of leadership by Canada was also noted by Canada's friends in the Third World."

The four observers were sponsored by the Canadian Council for International Cooperation (CCIC), the umbrella organization to which belong most Canadian non-governmental organizations involved in Third World development assistance.

A communiqué issued by the CCIC observers states that they felt UNCTAD V was a "qualified failure." They attributed this to the size of the meeting—5,000 delegates from 159 nations—and to the tendency for the developing nations on various issues to defeat a number of resolutions.

The CCIC observers did, however, remark positively on two areas of potential benefit to the developing countries agreed to by UNCTAD V—greater financial assistance for the least developed countries and a proposal to convene a conference to discuss the problems of the least developed.

The CCIC observers were part of the International Coalition for Development Action (ICDA) a group of non-governmental organizations from several developed countries that went to Manila to monitor the conference for their home audiences.

Members of the CCIC group were: David Pollock, CCIC program committee chairman and member of Ten Days for World Development; Renaud Bernardin from the Association québécoise des organismes de coopération internationale (L'AQOCI), Ernst Verdieu from l'AQOCI and Carrefour Tiers Monde; and Robert Morrison from the Saskatchewan Council for International Co-operation (SCIC).

NEWS
BACKGROUND**FAMILY FARM
CONSULTATION TO
BE HELD IN CANADA**

Canada is host to an innovative international consultation that will bring together farmers and farm leaders from developing countries, Europe and North America to address the global issues affecting farming families.

This unique venture is much more than a conference—farmers and farm leaders from the participating Third World countries will stay on family farms as guests of Canadian farmers in Prince Edward Island and will have the opportunity to visit family farms in Quebec and Saskatchewan prior to the final working session in Charlottetown.

The official host for the August 17 to 31 consultation is the Institute of Man and Resources—a non-governmental organization in Charlottetown—in co-operation with the governments of Saskatchewan, Quebec and Prince Edward Island. Financial support is being supplied by CIDA's Non-Governmental Organizations Division and the Voluntary Agricultural Development Aid Programs (VADA).

The consultation is scheduled to begin in Saskatchewan August 19 and will include meetings with Saskatchewan farm groups and organizations and visits to Saskatchewan family farms.

The group will then move to Quebec City where they will visit farms and agricultural processing plants before moving on to Charlottetown where delegates will stay with host farmers in P.E.I. while attending five days of seminars and meetings on problems facing family farms in both Western and developing countries.

The objectives of the consultation include:

- to promote an international exchange of views on the problems, opportunities and challenges facing the family farm sector;
- to review the role of farm and rural organizations in supporting and assisting farming communities and families;
- to assess the impact of the energy crisis on family farms and to examine alternatives;
- to review the trends and effectiveness of international development assistance to farming families, small-

- holders and cultivators; and
- to develop an agenda for future action in support of farming and rural families.

Officials from CIDA, USAID, the World Bank and International Development Research Council (IDRC) are expected to describe trends, priorities and problems in their programs of development assistance to Third World family farmers.

Working groups to consider trends in international and domestic assistance in the context of their own countries and experience are planned so that they can offer criticism, comment and suggestions.

A session is planned for the Institute of Man and Resources "Ark project" site where experimental and operational self-sufficiency solar and wind systems are demonstrated and are being developed.

Publication of the proceedings of this consultation is planned in the form of a "textbook" on the subject of family farms.

In addition to the 30 Third World farmers, 10 farm leaders from Denmark, the Netherlands, Britain, France and the U.S. are expected. All participants were invited by the conference organizers.

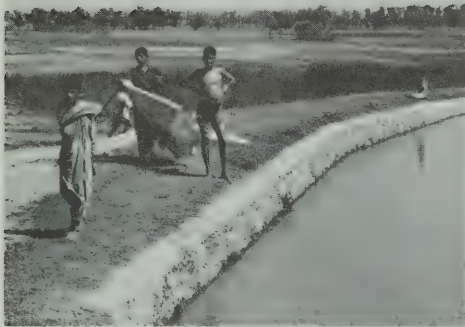
The impetus for this consultation on the family farm came from the Prince Edward Island delegate to VADA, David Catmur, who with his counterparts from the provinces of Saskatchewan and Quebec, Ken Johns and Denis Gervais, evolved the framework for the consultation during the past two years.

The VADA committee channels voluntary development assistance from the provinces—primarily in the food and agriculture sector—to Third World countries with the assistance of CIDA.

These three provincial representatives felt that the plight of the small family farm is common to the Third World, Canada and Europe and that VADA, the only official federal-provincial committee within CIDA, was the best forum in which to plan and co-ordinate the conference.

ASIA

CANADIAN FUNDS TO HELP FARMERS IN PAKISTAN



Pakistani boys at the site of the CIDA-assisted SCARP-Mardan drainage and irrigation system project designed to benefit thousands of farmers.
CIDA photo: Paul Huddleston

A vast agricultural development and land improvement project that will benefit thousands of Pakistan's most impoverished farmers has received a \$30 million grant from Canada.

The project is expected to double agricultural production in much of the underdeveloped North West Frontier Province of Pakistan by 1995.

Additional crops valued at \$50 million yearly and new on-farm employment equivalent to about 10,000 full-time permanent jobs, as well as related non-farm employment, should result from the project known as SCARP Mardan. Mardan is the region's main town and SCARP stands for Salinity Control and Reclamation Project.

The SCARP approach was developed by Pakistan in co-operation with the World Bank and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) as an integrated system of drainage and irrigation applied to an area of up to a million acres where crop yields are low due to salty soil or waterlogging.

SCARP projects are designed to help Pakistan achieve two of its development objectives—increased food grain production and employment creation. The SCARP Mardan project area contains more than a quarter of the good agricultural soil in the North West Frontier Province, which has 16 per

cent of Pakistan's population but only 2 per cent of its irrigated land. The area's inadequate water supply and poor drainage have combined to cause low agricultural productivity.

The region's irrigation system, based on the Lower Swat canal, delivers too little water and allows a rising water table to restrict root growth and cause salinization and the formation of ponds.

Local farmers have abandoned 25,000 acres of this farmland because it is waterlogged. The problem has also reduced agricultural production on an estimated additional 100,000 acres.

SCARP Mardan designed to correct this problem on about 210,000 irrigated acres, will be financed by the CIDA grant of \$30 million plus \$72.3 million from the World Bank's International Development Association (IDA), \$63.9 million from the government of Pakistan and \$1.7 from the local farmers in the form of voluntary labor arranged through their irrigation associations.

Half the Canadian funds are "untied" and will help cover local costs. The other half will be used to purchase essential equipment and services in Canada, such as vehicles, motors, graders, a dragline and maintenance shop, as well as Canadian consultancy services in the field of evaluation.

This project includes the following components:

- land reclamation through installation of tile drainage, improvement of surface drain systems, and treatment of saline and alkaline land;
- more irrigation water through improvement of major and minor canals and land levelling;
- infrastructure backup and monitoring of engineering works, through development of roads, agricultural extension services and training programs, as well as monitoring of progress and the provision of consultants;
- evaluation by a Canadian institution in association with the Institute of Economic Studies of the North West Frontier Province. People living in the project area have a per capita income of only \$88 per year, less than half the national average. It is expected that owners of small farms will be the main beneficiaries especially of the extension services and the increased water supply because small farms tend to be located at the end of watercourses and to lose access to water during shortages.

The World Bank estimates that the average two-acre farm will more than triple its income over the next 15 years because of the project. The region's large group of landless, unskilled and unemployed workers will also benefit through employment and training generated by the project. Crops grown in the area—maize, wheat and sugar-cane—are used locally for food, rather than being exported. The increased production of these crops will likely bring the region closer to self-sufficiency.

CIDA provided about \$62 million in bilateral (country-to-country) development assistance in 1978-79 to Pakistan, historically the second-largest recipient of Canadian aid. Canada has been the major source of assistance, largely through dams and transmission lines, in the development of Pakistan's power supply, much of which is used for agriculture—chiefly irrigation.

CIDA's current program in Pakistan gives priority to the development of agriculture, energy, natural resources, transportation and public health. In addition, several Canadian non-governmental organizations (NGOs), including Cansave, CARE Canada, the Salvation Army, Planned Parenthood of Canada, UNICEF and Operation Eyesight Universal, have supported projects in Pakistan in such areas as housing, health, and community development.

AFRICA

CIDA TO ASSIST KENYA'S ELECTRICAL TRANSMISSION SYSTEM

One of the largest Canadian aid projects in Africa is to start in Kenya during the next five to seven years. The \$82.75 million agreement includes \$72 million in interest-free loans and \$10.75 million in grants to carry out development of Kenya's electrical transmission system.

The loans are to finance the costs of consultant and engineering services, material and equipment for high voltage transmission lines and sub-stations to assist the industrialization of Kenya's western and coastal regions. The grants will be for the extension of rural electrification in the eastern part of the country.

Kenya's vice-president and finance minister, Mwai Kibaki, says the project will be a cornerstone of his country's current five-year development program.

CIDA

CANADA ANNOUNCES TRADE OFFICE TO BENEFIT THIRD WORLD

The intention to open a trade facilitation office designed to help Third World nations overcome obstacles in selling their products in Canadian markets has been announced by the Canadian government.

The office, to be located in Montreal, will have two main functions: to provide information on request concerning the problems an exporter from a developing nation may face in trying to penetrate the Canadian market and to develop specific projects and programs such as seminars, trade fairs, and training to assist the poorer developing countries in their efforts to export goods to Canada.

The office has been established with an initial three year mandate after which its activities will be reviewed. The CIDA's Industrial Cooperation Division will be responsible for overseeing operations. In addition, there will be an interdepartmental advisory board with representatives from the departments of finance, industry, trade and commerce, and external affairs who will provide CIDA with broad advice on questions related to the office.

Canada's decision to establish a trade facilitation office represents a commitment to improving trading relations with developing countries. Companies from Third World nations, particularly from the least developed countries, are often confronted by a bewildering maze of tariff, custom, tax and safety regulations. Marketing, sales, financing, insurance and transportation aspects often add to these countries' problems in selling their goods to Canada.

In announcing the decision to open the office at the UNCTAD V forum in May, Canada honors its commitment to try and facilitate trade with the Third World made at the earlier UNCTAD IV meeting.

In deciding to open a trade facilitation office, Canada joins several other developed nations such as Britain, the Netherlands, Germany and the USSR which have already adopted similar policies.

NEWS FOLLOW-UP

BATTLES AGAINST LOCUSTS SUCCESSFUL, BUT WAR NOT YET OVER



A specimen of the desert locust being placed in a killing jar. The pest has been threatening harvests in Africa and parts of Asia for the past several years.
Photo: FAO

Although danger still remains, the desert locust plague that has threatened much of Africa and Southwest Asia for the past two years has now apparently been beaten back to more manageable proportions.

The grain crops depended upon by millions of people in Ethiopia, Sudan, Somalia, Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda have been threatened by one of the worst desert locust invasions in recent memory.

At the recent meeting of the Food and Agriculture Organization's Desert Locust Control Committee, D.F.R. Bommer, assistant director-general of the FAO's agriculture department said "many victories have been won in the battle against the desert locust menace but the war is not yet over."

He warned that now is the time to consider the medium and long-term measures in order to avoid another massive onslaught. Enormous food losses during the past years are attributed to the plague of the grasshopper-like insects.

A one-mile square swarm of the insects can eat 14 tons of grain a day. Each insect can eat twice its own weight daily.

Dr. Bommer said that intensive campaigns along the Red Sea coasts of Sudan and Saudi Arabia in the winter

of 1978-79 achieved complete success but some locust swarms escaped from eastern Ethiopia.

"These may emerge to threaten crops and reach areas not previously invaded during the plague," he warned.

The Desert Locust Control Organization of East Africa has a budget of \$2 million contributed by donor countries. Canada, although not a supporting member of the locust control program, does make contributions to it, through CIDA, from time to time.

PEOPLE



Flora MacDonald has been named Canada's Secretary of State for External Affairs, the first woman to hold that position. She has been a Progressive Conservative Member of Parliament since 1972.
Photo: Robert Sutcliffe



Senator Martial Asselin has been appointed Minister of State for CIDA. He was named to the Senate in 1972 after having been elected Member of Parliament in 1958, 1965, and 1968 for the Progressive Conservative party. He has been on many delegations to developing countries as both a Senator and an MP and served as Canada's Forestry Minister in 1963.
Photo: Andrews-Newton

THE CLUB DU SAHEL

A NEW FORM OF INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION

by G. Ed. Bourgoignie

For the past three years, Canada has been party to a new variant of international co-operation embodied in the "Club du Sahel." This development "club" is a combination of the usual forms of aid transfer channels—bilateral, multilateral, and voluntary non-governmental in a type of multi-bilateral regional association.

This interesting combination of approaches to development assistance took shape in March 1976 because several aid donors felt that development assistance could be combined in a different way to benefit the drought-stricken Sub-Saharan nations of West Africa known as the Sahel.

Founding members of the proposed aid "club" decided to try and apply the principles guiding voluntary non-profit organizations (NGOs) involved in development to such other entities as states willing to help the devastated area.

The situation was ripe for this kind of exercise. The Sahel nations themselves founded the Permanent Inter-State Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) in order to co-ordinate integrated region-wide planning and utilization of the development assistance and offers of development assistance they had received.

A complementary international structure became possible, even desirable. The general conditions made for ready acceptance of an international club that would bring together the Sahel governments, the development-oriented institutions already existing in the region and the international sources of financing, while respecting each one's areas of jurisdiction and national integrity.

So in 1976 the Club du Sahel was born with the support of the Paris-based Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). The club brings together the CILSS member states—Cape Verde Islands, Gambia, Upper Volta, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal and Chad—and the nations and international agencies that wish to or already do participate in the aid effort in this region.



Nomadic farmers like this who have lost most of their livestock in the prolonged drought affecting several Sub-Saharan nations receive development assistance from the Club du Sahel, of which Canada is a member. CIDA photo: Jim White

It has been given the task of supporting the actions of CILSS; of facilitating the mobilization of increasing resources for the development of the Sahel nations; of encouraging co-operation between donors in implementing programs and projects; and of promoting the discussion and solution of specific problems. From the outset, the Club du Sahel has received the active support of many countries and international organizations, among which is the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

The Club du Sahel is a voluntary association whose aim is simply to support the development of the Sahel nations.

Governments and public development agencies join it on an equal footing, respecting the sovereignty of each, and determined to collaborate on a regional basis in the socio-economic development of the Sahel. Participation is open to all, whenever they wish and in whatever activity interests them.

At their second annual meeting held in Ottawa in May-June 1977, the members of the Club du Sahel recognized that self-sufficiency and security of food supply were the goals to be reached for the Sahel by the year 2000.

The association is flexible in that its members participate when they wish, without prior commitment or formal legal obligation, in mutual consultative meetings, program and policy formulation, or short-term action planning. Its flexibility and informality in no way entail a lack of continuity, since there is a small secretariat located at the

seat of the OECD in Paris that is responsible for permanent liaison between the members of the "club." This allows for participation from all who wish to in one form or another, to obtain information about, join in the work of, or commit themselves to Sahel development activity.

The idea of co-ordinating the various aid contributions and inviting co-operation agencies to work together is not new. Many assemblies, consortia or consultative groups have tried, with varying degree of success, to co-ordinate aid effectively. Most of the time, however, they never passed the information exchange stage. Such exchanges of views and information are already something, but the international "club" goes further. What it seeks are freely consented, term commitments.

One of the essential characteristics of the Club du Sahel is that it calls upon the people on the spot and gives the CILSS member nations the responsibility for doing what is their concern, while at the same time appealing to donors to make firm commitments. In this way, the work of the Club du Sahel in 1977-78 concentrated primarily on the financing of a first generation program made up of national and regional projects that had been put forward in the following sectors: protection of vegetation, fisheries, animal husbandry, reforestation, transportation, plant production, education and health.

The results of these meetings were presented at the third annual meeting held in Amsterdam in November 1978. There were firm commitments to the first generation program totalling \$870 million, and if donor interest expressed in other projects included in the program is added, the total is more than \$2 billion.

In 1979-80, the work of the secretariat of the Club du Sahel will concentrate on speeding up the financing of the first generation projects (1977-82), and preparing second generation projects (1983-1987), among other things. The secretariat is thus playing an active part in mobilizing financing.

However, the Club du Sahel is not a supplementary financing agency, but essentially an agency for co-ordination and promotion of regional development.

G. Ed. Bourgoignie is one of the three officers in the Paris-based secretariat of the Club du Sahel. He is a former director of CIDA's Evaluation Division.

UNCTAD V

HOPE FOR THE LEAST DEVELOPED

by Jeff Endrst
UN correspondent

The four-week May UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD V) in Manila, Philippines, decided without dissent to launch a comprehensive new program of action for the least developed countries—the so-called Fourth World—and called for the provision of much larger flows of assistance to these countries.

On development assistance generally, the conference urged all donor countries to increase “effectively and substantially” their official aid flow towards the UN target of 0.7 per cent of GNP. It called for a doubling of this target as soon as possible with respect to the least developed countries.

Reflecting the concern expressed by many countries in Manila that protectionism and its consequences for the economies of the have-nots, UNCTAD V called on the industrialized countries to reduce and eliminate such practices particularly towards imports from the have-nots. However, the developing countries said that this resolution fell far short of their expectations. The Western countries in turn expressed reservations of their own.

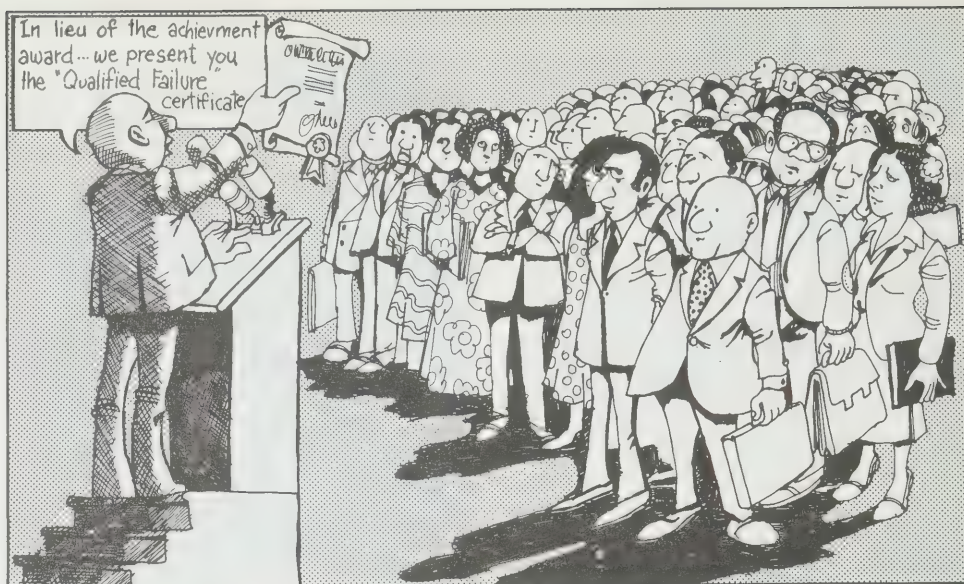
On another trade issue, the conference asked the executive body of UNCTAD—the trade and development board—to evaluate the results of the multilateral trade negotiations of GATT—the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade—recently held in Geneva.

During the month-long UNCTAD session, 13 countries pledged a total of 87 million to a commodity development facility known as the “second window” of the common fund for commodities. Agreement in principle on the establishment of the fund was reached in March.

UNCTAD V also agreed to lines of action for a possible international strategy to boost the technological capacity of the Third World. But agreement could not be reached in Manila on the main issues that have so far blocked completion of a code of conduct for the transfer of technology to developing countries.

UNCTAD V called for a second session of the conference on this subject to be held late this year in Geneva.

Intensive negotiations failed to produce a resolution on the world trade and economic situation and structural



changes in the world economy. Spokesmen from developed and developing nations agreed that the dialogues on these topics must continue.

The conference approved a detailed plan for implementing the UNCTAD integrated program for commodities, including a call for prompt action to establish a common fund to finance buffer stocks in a price-stabilization scheme.

It also proposed intensified action to reach agreement on individual commodities.

It urged that investment and technical assistance for food production be substantially increased in the Third World. The important maritime countries committed themselves some time ago in Geneva to ratify and thereby bring into effect a 1974 UN convention on a code of conduct for the ship owners' association known as liner conferences.

But these same countries voted against Third World proposals on other maritime issues. In Manila they abstained on a proposal to provide financial and technical assistance to help the developing countries build up their merchant fleets.

In other action, the conference suggested steps by both have and have-not countries to cope with the “brain drain” of trained personnel from developing to developed nations.

It called on developed countries to eliminate discriminatory and unfair practices in transport, banking, and insurance, and particularly passenger air fares. The Western countries voted against this resolution.

UNCTAD V decided that the UN conference on restrictive business prac-

tices, requested by the General Assembly last year, would be held during the last quarter of 1979 at a yet undecided site.

The Group of 77 announced at the closing meeting that it was recommending to a ministerial meeting of its members to meet in New York later this year that consideration be given to a proposal made by Ferdinand E. Marcos, president of the Philippines, for the establishment of a mechanism to implement multilateral economic cooperation within the group.

The Manila conference was marked by a series of negotiating crises which lasted to the very end. One of the controversial resolutions adopted against strenuous opposition from the United States and Israel was to provide UNCTAD assistance to the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), and various black liberation movements in Southern Africa.

The conference did not have the question of energy on its agenda but Western countries were reported to have insisted that UNCTAD must deal with this issue which currently dominated international economic considerations.

The conference was attended by delegation from 144 out of 159 UNCTAD member states. **DD**

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT AT THE CROSSROADS

The UN Conference on Science and Technology for Development is generally viewed as a "now or never opportunity" for developing countries to discover what they can do for themselves and how much the more fortunate countries are willing to help them.

Two years of preparations for the August 1979 Vienna conference have generated a good deal of agitation and have produced increased awareness about the importance of science and technology in development. The subject has also led to increased cross-fertilization of ideas and communication among nations—horizontally, vertically and diagonally.

At least 134 countries, including 100 developing nations, have been involved in the preparatory stages. There will be more than 120 national papers based on national experience or regional concepts presented to the conference.

A comprehensive draft program of action has been tabled by the "Group of 77" developing countries. The text is still under active negotiation and many contentious sections have already been postponed for later consideration.

Considerable concern exists that adequate time was not available prior to the conference to thoroughly vet the text. As a consequence, the Vienna conference may be faced with the formidable task of drafting the final program of action virtually from first principals.

In addition to a brief philosophical preamble, the program of action is based upon three targets:

- strengthening the scientific and technological capacities of developing countries;
- restructuring the existing pattern of international scientific and technological relations;
- strengthening the role of the United Nations system in the field of science and technology and the provision of increased financial resources.



Delegates to an IDRC-sponsored science symposium in Toronto preparatory to the August United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development (UNCSTD) included (left to right) V.C. Abrahams, president of SCITEC—the Association of the Scientific Engineering and Technological Community of Canada; W.L. Jenkins, CIDA's vice-president for policy; and Rex Nettleford, a Jamaican governor of the Ottawa-based International Development Research Institute (IDRC).
Photo: IDRC

In sifting through the numerous recommendations and areas of concern in this lengthy document, six issues have been selected for special concentration by the federal interdepartmental committee in charge of Canadian preparations for the conference.

In broad terms, these areas are: general science policy issues, financial issues, information exchange systems, institutional issues, science and technology relations (including transfer of technology, restrictive business practices, transnational corporations and patents) and human resources.

The program of action has been based squarely upon the "new international economic order" (NIEO) and the related NIEO plan of action. In this respect, the conference must be seen from a North-South perspective and will be political rather than technical in nature.

The main thrusts of the conference are to define access to and terms of access to technology. Access to technology for the developing countries needs to be as unencumbered as possible in respect of price, training, restrictive business practices and patents.

Similarly, access should be regulated by a code of conduct on the transfer of technology (as negotiated under UNCTAD auspices) which would provide special measures for developing countries to the extent possible.

One of the major problems likely to be encountered at the Vienna conference

is that the present program of action addresses issues directly which are currently under negotiation in other, more expert, fora.

While the details are still vague, the draft program seeks the establishment of "global financial arrangements" to implement the action steps of the plan. At present, such a proposal would appear to be a special fund for science and technology and research and development activities.

Canadian and OECD member states in general have not traditionally been favorable to the establishment of a special fund. Rather, the preference has been given to the central funding principle. Such an approach permits developing countries the opportunity to assign relative priorities to their various problems and programs.

The draft plan recommendation is that policies of UN organizations be better "harmonized" by a high-level inter-governmental body. If this recommendation implies significant restructuring within the UN system, it would not be surprising if discussions become rather heated and prolonged.

The various specialized agencies, other UN bodies, and various blocs of nations have various and differing views on such organizational questions.

The UN conference on science and technology for development—known as UNCSTD—is a unusual conference in that it is multi-sectoral, unlike the international conferences on the environment, habitat or population.



Photos: UNHCR

CHILD REFUGEES IN THE THIRD WORLD

A MUCH NEGLECTED OPPORTUNITY FOR DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE

by Guy Stanley

In 1979, International Year of the Child (IYC) there are 10.5 million refugees in the world and half of them are children.

Not only in South East Asia among those uprooted from Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea (Cambodia), but also in Latin America and in Africa, the word "refugee" means "child" in one case out of two.

In temporary villages in Djibouti, constructed to house refugees from Ethiopia, 60 per cent of the total population is under 16.

In two centres near Lusaka, Zambia, almost all 20,000 refugees are adolescents fleeing the war in Rhodesia and more are arriving daily.

Most of the world's refugee children however, flee with their parents. Like the problems confronting their parents, the problems facing refugee children would vanish if the family could return home. If the family could be resettled in another country, their basic problems would be significantly alleviated.

Why, with so many refugee children in the world, is not more being done to alleviate the problem? Recently, speaking about the "boat people" refugees from Vietnam, Bud Cullen, while he was Canada's immigration minister charged that the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the main international body dealing with refugee problems, was failing to exercise its mandate effectively.

"We should be trying to get away from 'ad hocery'—UNHCR has got to get on the ball in highlighting what countries should do and give."

But is UNHCR at fault, or is it that the nations of the world are failing to live

up to their humanitarian obligations? Is Canada—despite its acceptance of thousands of refugees each year—itsself doing enough to mobilize international action on behalf of refugees?

The mandate of UNHCR to protect and assist refugees derives from the 1951 Convention on the Status of Refugees, a Protocol added in 1967, the Statute establishing the Office and a number of General Assembly resolutions. These instruments give UNHCR the authority to protect and co-ordinate international assistance to refugees.

But that mandate is a delicate one to exercise. The willingness of governments to grant asylum to refugees—the most basic need of a person in flight from persecution—varies.

Countries, especially poor ones, may be reluctant to grant asylum when confronted with potentially massive influxes of refugees and the sudden burden of tens of thousands of hungry mouths. Or they may be reluctant to risk offending a powerful neighbour.

The existence of UNHCR, a non-aligned body enshrined in international law and able to arrange and deliver re-

lief supplies generally helps overcome that reluctance.

But lasting solutions cannot be supplied by UNHCR, which is essentially a co-ordinating agency. Such solutions must come from the international community itself.

As Raymond Terrillon, UNHCR Representative in Canada says, "UNHCR is like a car without gas or at least, not enough gas. If the countries will not define a policy, it is difficult for us to act."

In the case of children, finding solutions is especially difficult because children face the additional problem of being dependent on an adult world and adjusting to provisions of immigration laws framed with adults in mind.

Take, for instance, the case of Linthong, a teenager who now works as a hospital orderly in a Laotian refugee camp and who would like to take more advanced medical training. Like thousands of Asian refugees, he fled without his parents who are still alive.

This makes Linthong a special problem. He is not an orphan and in any case is too old to be adopted according to the laws of most countries.

On the other hand, he is too young to be sponsored to a country for resettlement. Canadian immigration law, for example, does not permit adoption of those over 13 or sponsorship of those under 18. His worst fault is his adolescence. As a result, Linthong is a victim of bureaucratic realities and is effectively 'stuck' in stateless limbo—a refugee.

The problem is infinitely worse for refugee children who are physically or mentally handicapped. If they are without parents, their chances of acceptance by a resettlement country are virtually nil without special assistance.

Another problem is the one specialists in refugee law call "extraterritoriality." This means having refugee status granted by one country recognized by other countries. At the moment, this is far from automatic.

In one recent case, a child granted refugee status in a European country learned his parents had been granted refugee status in another. So he went to join them, travelling on a convention travel document, a refugee passport issued by UNHCR, and remained with

his parents until after his refugee passport expired.

Suddenly he was without any status in the third country and was theoretically subject to expulsion—even though the family had now been reunited. The case is still under consideration.

Not all problems faced by refugee children are legal ones. The problems of adjusting to a new way of life, of reconciling one's national origin and past with a new country and a new future are especially difficult for children.

In Canada, voluntary agencies are especially active in using fostering provisions of the new immigration act so that South East Asian refugee children caught in Linthong's predicament can be admitted.

But from the point of view of government officials, they are accepting a risk in permitting this: what if a refugee child leaves a foster home to take a job and then applies for admission of his parents?

Must there be a clash between policy and people? International Year of the Child provides an occasion and a challenge for governments to improve the management of refugee problems. A first step would be concerted action to reduce bureaucratic barriers of humanitarian action.

UNHCR has already taken steps in this direction by organizing specialized discussion of legal procedures at the annual meetings of its 20-nation governing body. Canada is a member, and immigration department officials are happy to admit they have benefited greatly from these sessions.

There is also scope for international research into more imaginative solutions for refugees—solutions that go beyond relying on the generosity of single countries and that in themselves promote international co-operation.

One such example of success in caring for refugee children is the Pestalozzi Children's Village in Switzerland.

Although it has existed for more than 30 years, it has attracted remarkably little world attention especially considering that this year is International Year of the Child.

Located high in the Swiss Alps at Trogen near the German border, it was established to care for the orphans from the Second World War.

Since then it has cared for Hungarians, Tibetans, Koreans, Ugandan Asians and Vietnamese refugee children as well as orphans and disturbed children from Europe and other countries of the world.

Each national group is raised in a "house" of its own nationality, cared for by "parents" who are child guidance experts of that nationality.

In the "house," national life, culture and language are daily realities. At school, German—the language of the Swiss Canton where the village is located—is taught, and is the language of community life.

Later, emphasis switches to career planning with participation in Swiss apprenticeship programs or further study at Swiss schools and universities.

Eventually, when they grow up, the children are expected to return to their own country, fully qualified to lead a useful, active life. If this is impossible, their chances of resettlement in third countries are improved by their having acquired useful skills.

As much as possible, as the children approach adulthood, visits to the home country are arranged to ease their return.

Similar villages exist in England, Germany and India and one is planned for Japan. All are supported mainly by voluntary contributions.

At the centre of the Swiss village is Canada Hall, a gift of the citizens of Zurich and the Canadian branch of UNESCO just after the War.

Perhaps Canada could again take a lead in sponsoring or developing imaginative solutions to the problem of refugee children in every nation of the world. International Year of the Child will pass away in December. The problems of refugees, and refugee children, will not. **DD**

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TRENDS IN CANADIAN FEDERAL- PROVINCIAL CO-OPERATION IN AID

by Charles Svoboda

The future for increased federal-provincial co-operation in Canada's aid program is bright although aid will remain primarily a responsibility of the federal government in Canada.

Until recently, much of the provincial contribution to Canada's aid program has been food and cash to emergency relief ventures made by voluntary organizations which have received matching grants from provincial government authorities.

In the mid-1960s the federal cabinet concluded that the provinces could make a wider contribution, particularly in terms of human resources.

Assistance to Third World farmers is only one sector where provincial governments co-operate with federal authorities to offer development assistance to the Third World.

Bottom: A farmer in rural Pakistan uses an ox-drawn plough. CIDA photo: Paul Huddleston

Top: A Canadian farmer harvesting corn for forage. Photo: Canadian Government Photo Centre

The first move toward this expanded role was taken by the federal government in 1965 when it took steps to facilitate co-operation between the federal government and the Quebec provincial government in implementing Canada's external aid program. At the same time, the federal government began consultations with other provinces for the same purpose.

In 1967 a series of propositions and principles on provincial participation in foreign aid were proposed to the provinces. The two main features of what has become known as the "Pearson Doctrine" are that foreign aid was to remain a federal responsibility but that the consequences of the provinces using their resources for foreign aid, particularly in the field of education, need to be fully considered.

The Pearson Doctrine also states that where a province might wish to finance or otherwise support an aid project, the only line of formal communication between the recipient country's government and provincial authorities in Canada would be through the federal government.

In 1968, largely in response to Quebec's desire to participate in some form of development assistance projects in the francophone Third World, the federal government's "white paper" on federalism and international relations formally welcomed provincial initiatives in the field of foreign aid.

In the decade or so since the white paper, certain of its objectives as regards a greater degree of federal/provincial co-operation in overseas development matters can be recorded as success stories. Individual provinces have responded in varying measure to the proposals outlined in 1967 and 1968. Although there have been specific problems, in general the attitude of both orders of government towards co-operation in international assistance has been positive.

Federal assistance to provincial councils of international co-operation, to provincial non-governmental organizations (NGOs), to provincial agricultural aid ventures through VADA (Voluntary Agricultural Development Aid Program) since its establishment in 1975, and

the elaboration of individual federal/provincial agreements on projects and other co-operative development matters speak for themselves as milestones in this process. They have been encouraged by the policies set out in the 1968 white paper, by the 1970 Foreign Policy for Canadian series and the 1975-80 Strategy for International Development Cooperation.

The goals set out in these documents regarding federal/provincial co-operation in external aid retain their validity, and recent discussions between federal and provincial officials suggest that this matter is being given more active consideration. It has become increasingly evident that several provinces desire still greater opportunities for participation in international development matters which have hitherto been almost an exclusive federal domain.

From the federal government perspective, while the ultimate control over external aid as an integral part of foreign policy must be maintained under its authority, an effective aid program continues to depend for its realization upon full co-operation from the provinces. Without unduly raising expectations, new ways of co-ordination and co-operation are being considered within VADA, and with individual provinces. This might give CIDA an opportunity to provide leadership to the provinces in the joint attempt to enlist the support of the people of Canada in meeting the rising economic expectations of the Third World. At the same time the legitimate interests of the provinces can be encouraged in directions consistent with CIDA's priorities and co-ordinated development planning processes.

Although there are a number of areas in CIDA's current programs that involve federal/provincial interaction, it is fair to say that the full potential for involvement has not yet been reached. Significant progress in these directions appears to be developing because the agency's activities involving the provinces, as a consequence of a thorough review of the matter in 1977, no longer remain uncoordinated, ad-hoc and largely responsive in nature.

Due to VADA's agricultural basis, provincial departments of agriculture have long been involved. In the case of Alberta—which makes about \$4 million per annum available for non-governmental organizations engaged in development assistance—the Department of Culture bears a major responsibility in this field. Saskatchewan has this year in its new Agricultural Development Corporation, established a branch to

deal with international co-operation ventures.

Over the years, Quebec has been involved (usually as executing agent) in by far the largest number—about 20 or so—Canadian aid projects, largely in Francophone Africa and the countries of the Maghreb. That province has also provided the most significant number of technical advisers or 'co-operants' in the service of CIDA projects, with numbers running into the hundreds.

Quebec's interest and involvement in aid matters lent special impetus to the federal government's consideration of the provinces in this area and the direction given to federal governments to facilitate co-operation between the central and provincial government thus owes much to Quebec. Of the world's federal states, Canada has, perhaps as a consequence, the distinction of encouraging and facilitating the interests of its constituent entities in this way.

CIDA has received the benefit of active co-operation, including access to provincial departments and agencies for special expertise in areas, such as education, not under federal jurisdiction and has been able to integrate and maximize the development impact of provincial contributions.

Other provincial governments, notably Canada's four Western provinces, have provided funds to non-governmental organizations including church groups, charitable institutions and voluntary bodies, to an approximate total in 1978 of about \$6 million. Quebec in late April this year announced a special grant of \$100,000 to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to finance health and educational aid projects in Angola, Burundi and Zaire. Quebec, Prince Edward Island and Saskatchewan have been involved in a joint venture with CIDA to hold an innovative family farms consultation [see article p. 00] and Nova Scotia has co-sponsored training of fishermen from Belize and elsewhere in the Caribbean.

Provinces have co-operated in making universities and technical training facilities available to Third World students and trainees. Ontario has met on a number of occasions requests for emergency food relief and all provinces have participated over the past four years in the federal/provincial Voluntary Agricultural Development Aid Program (VADA). For 1979-80, ventures under VADA are projected to receive \$1 million in federal funds largely for the transport of goods and services donated by provincial governments.

Proposals are under active consideration to increase the scope of and

funding for VADA which also provides a useful forum for federal/provincial dialogue on aid matters, to embrace multi-year budgeting and a program committee to receive, consider and fund international aid projects identified by the provinces.

While the letter of the "Pearson Doctrine" has never been given formal approval by provincial governments, the spirit is very much alive. The imperatives of the New International Economic Order and the Third UN Development Decade will provide new challenges for Canadians and their provincial as well as federal governments.

FEDERAL- PROVINCIAL CONTACT POINTS WITH CIDA

- Policy Branch, which through the co-ordinator of federal/provincial relations, has the responsibility for overall co-ordination of activities involving the provinces;
- The Voluntary Agricultural Development Aid Program (VADA) under Multilateral Branch;
- The Bilateral Programs Branch, which utilizes provincial government organizations as executing agencies;
- The Special Programs Branch which works closely through the NGO Division with certain provincial governments and provincial councils of international co-operation, in support of NGO endeavours, often funding these. Through the Industrial Co-operation Division this Branch also maintains contact with provincial governments in the development and management of its program of co-operation with business and industrial concerns in Canada and the Third World;
- Resources Branch, which has entered into agreements with individual provinces in order to obtain the services of qualified individuals, consultants and experts in the context of CIDA projects abroad and which arranges for the placement of students and trainees in support of several programs and projects;

Charles Svoboda is an External Affairs foreign service officer who was seconded to CIDA as co-ordinator of its federal-provincial relations program. He is now with the Canadian Embassy in Belgrade.



EDMONTON UNITAR CONFERENCE

THE FUTURE OF HEAVY OILS AS AN ENERGY SOURCE FOR THE THIRD WORLD

by Gary Fairbairn

Delegates from 34 countries at the United Nations' conference on the future of heavy oil and oil sands have taken small but significant steps towards eventual easing of the back-breaking load that oil imports have placed on many developing nations.

The Edmonton conference, first of its kind, held June 4-12, produced several bilateral technology-sharing agreements and promise of a co-ordinated world-wide effort to develop unconventional oil resources.

A vice-president of the Royal Bank of Canada, J.G. McMillan, outlined the dark threat of the future as he predicted

that imported oil delivered at Montreal will quadruple in price to \$70 a barrel in 16 years.

That financial strain, tough enough for Canada to bear, would hit developing nations with even greater severity.

But a Madagascar army colonel, Hubert Andrianasolo, provided a more optimistic vision as he described his island-nation's economic aspirations.

Colonel Andrianasolo, head of the Madagascar national military office for strategic industries, said his island of eight million people, 400 kilometres off the east African coast, imports all its oil — 600,000 tons last year, perhaps 1 million tons by 1988.

That staggering bill, he told the other 350 delegates at the conference, could be eliminated with development of the 3 billion tons of extremely heavy oil in Madagascar's Bemolanga oil sands.

"Compared to the 250 billion tons of the Canada and Venezuela deposits, the reserves of our deposits are less important but their exploitation will be a substantial contribution to the Malagasy economy," he said.

That was precisely the message officials of the UN Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) hoped to spread around the world when they organized the conference in co-operation with the Alberta oil sands technology research authority (AOSTRA) and the US energy department.

UNITAR officials called heavy oil, of which oil in oil sands is an extreme form, "the world's largest overlooked energy resource."

Sick, sluggish, laden with unwanted minerals, it lies in more than 60 nations and totals trillions of barrels.

Largely by-passed in the days of cheaper energy in favor of more easily extracted and refined conventional light oil, it remains as a possible alternative to declining supplies of conventional oil.

"It's as if the Lilliputians had overlooked Gulliver," a UNITAR paper commented.

Gulliver, however, has at last been officially noticed.

In consensus-backed policy statements drawn up in delegate workshops, the conference declared "adequate technology now exists, or is sufficiently close to realization, that heavy oils and

tar sands can make a significant contribution to the energy requirements of a number of countries in the medium-term future. Although precise figures on the size of the resource base are not known, the world already-discovered in-place resources exceed several trillion barrels. . .the immense heavy resources of the world offer the most rapid and less expensive response to the shortage of oil supplies."

At a news conference after the nine-day meeting ended, an AOSTRA head, Clem Bowman, said a significant step came in overdue official recognition of the extent of world heavy oil reserves.

"There is an opportunity for many countries to become self-sufficient in petroleum through these deposits.

"They require assistance in technology and they require assistance in trained personnel.

"In the same way that Canada is hoping to become a non-importer of oil through the development of our tar sands, the same opportunity exists for small countries with small deposits.

"And I think it can be a very stabilizing factor in the supply of energy in these small countries if they can get to that position."

Dr. Bowman repeated an offer, made at the start of the conference, to have AOSTRA provide free testing of oil sands and technological advice for developing nations who agree to let the resulting information be published to further knowledge of oil sands. During the conference, Madagascar became the first nation to sign such an agreement with AOSTRA. Dr. Bowman said several others have started initial talks aimed at similar agreements.

The movement toward international co-operation was also aided by information exchange agreements between Alberta and Venezuela and between Canada, the United States and Alberta and Saskatchewan.

Venezuelan and U.S. officials also expressed general willingness to help other nations with research).

Joseph Barnea, conference co-chairman with Dr. Bowman and the head of the UNITAR energy planning section, praised such moves and said the heavy oil campaign had received a substantial boost just from the gathering of so much knowledge in one place.

He predicted that the conference record, to be published later this year, by McGraw-Hill of New York, "will be for a number of years the international bible of the heavy crude and heavy tar sands industry."



Evidence of oil refineries is often indicative of a country's wealth in both the developed and developing countries.

Photo: Chris Lund, Canadian Government Photo Centre

More than 100 technical papers were presented.

And from the discussion Dr. Barnea said will come much greater enthusiasm for heavy oil development: "this first international conference, held in Edmonton, will enter history as the beginning of the heavy crude and tar sands period."

Among conference recommendations were calls for a follow-up conference in 1981 or 1982 and for creation of a UN centre to distribute information on heavy oil and oil sands.

In what Dr. Barnea termed "an encouraging announcement," Dr. Bowman said the Alberta government will provide a quick \$10,000 to get such a centre started provided that the centre is guided by a committee of international experts who include at least one representative of a country with small to medium heavy oil or oil sands deposits.

Dr. Bowman explained later that Alberta feels the UN does not have enough experts to run such a centre by itself. Also, Alberta did not want the centre to be dominated by the big members of the heavy oils club: Venezuela, Canada, the United States and the Soviet Union.

He agreed with Dr. Barnea that the prompt Alberta cash will probably bring other support soon: "the importance of it is not its size but its need."

The proposal for a follow-up conference also drew early support from Richard Hertzberg, director of fossil fuels for the U.S. energy department.

Mr. Hertzberg invited UNITAR to hold a second conference in the United States, an invitation that Venezuelan officials indicated would have to compete with coming offer from their country.

Prime aims of such a follow-up conference will be making a more comprehensive catalogue of world heavy oil resources, precisely defining heavy oils in scientific terms and including countries like China that were not represented at this conference.

By that time the experts might also have come closer to agreement on how many heavy oil can be developed and how soon.

In a complex debate throughout the Edmonton conference, optimists and pessimists displayed divergent views on the interplay of technology and economics in the heavy oil industry.

Optimists urged a crash development program saying the resource could remove oil shortages in 10 to 15 years.

Pessimists maintained that technological inefficiency and the massive costs for heavy oil and oil sands projects would slow development—but even they agreed that heavy oils will be a substantial part of the world's energy future.

Gary Fairbairn, Western Business Editor for The Canadian Press is based in Calgary.



Third World children like these in India will remain hungry

WFC SESSION IN OTTAWA

INTERNATIONAL BODY TO ASSESS CURRENT WORLD FOOD SITUATION

by Sharleen Bannon
Editor, Development Directions

Canada—and the world—will again be reminded that almost 450 million people in 40 developing countries are hungry and malnourished when the World Food Council (WFC) meets in Ottawa, September 4-7.

This will be the fifth annual ministerial session of the 34-nation body that was created in the wake of the world food crisis to implement the resolutions of the 1974 Rome World Food Conference.

The WFC is charged with the weighty responsibility of serving as the eyes, ears and conscience of the United Nations system with regard to food.

This is not easy at a time when generally improved world harvests and a host of economic preoccupations in

the developed countries is in danger of breeding an apathy that could result in a recurrence of the epic starvation in the early '70s in much of the Third World.

Although Western daily newspapers are no longer filled with the pictures of hollow-eyed mothers clutching swollen-bellied children that stirred the conscience of the wealthier world to join with the developing countries to call for the formation of the World Food Council, the global food situation remains precarious.

The ambitious agenda for the four-day Ottawa meeting will include discussions of vital significance to the future of developing countries. Topics include overcoming the constraints on increasing food production in developing countries, world food security, trade and aid, hunger and malnutrition and greater equity in the distribution of food.

The annual session, which meets for the first time in Canada, is a forum for the president and the executive director to present detailed reports on the council's activities and the world food situation during the past year. The session also serves as the forum for the council to adopt a plan of action

for the coming year and formulate its annual report to be presented at the upcoming UN General Assembly session this fall. About 300 participants and observers are expected to attend, including representatives from non-governmental organizations.

Maurice J. Williams, the 59-year-old Canadian-born executive director of WFC who was named to the post last September is confident that progress will be made on the agenda item dealing with food production and investment because there has been much co-operation from participants since the last WFC meeting in Mexico last summer.

Mr. Williams is less optimistic about the progress that will be made on the question of food security, a major goal of the WFC but one on which he admits there has been a lack of significant progress.

On the subject of alleviating world hunger and malnutrition, Mr. Williams said he feels WFC is "making some progress" but laments there are still so many people with no income to buy food.

"What is the world's responsibility for those who are hungry now but aren't going to benefit immediately from long-

term development planning?" he asked rhetorically, during an interview in his office at UN headquarters after his address to the United Nations development strategy preparatory committee for the New International Development Strategy.

During the interview, he pointed out that in many countries there is enough food but it is badly distributed and the council must reach agreement on how to come to grips with solving this distribution problem.

When asked to evaluate the achievements of the four-and-a-half year old body, the veteran of 20 years' work in Third World development admitted that "one of the hardest things to evaluate in development is progress."

"However, I'm willing to say some progress has been made in the past four years. Food aid has been doubled, IFAD—the International Fund for Agricultural Development—became operational last year as recommended by the World Food Conference and we now also have stronger mechanisms to deal with international emergency food situations."

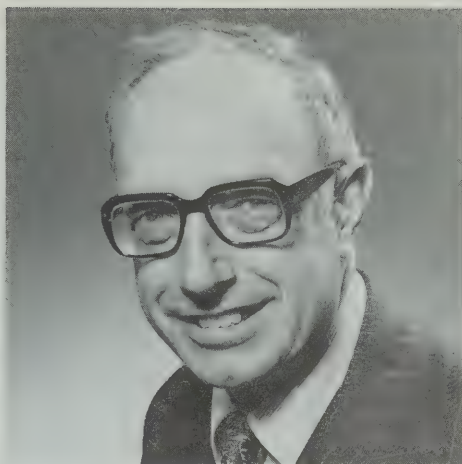
The youthful-looking veteran of international development organizations admitted that the road to achieving the goals of the World Food Conference which proclaimed the Declaration on the Eradication of Hunger and Malnutrition is neither easy nor short.

"At least a decade more of very hard work is needed to get co-operation on the items on the Ottawa agenda."

This statement is made by a realist. Prior to his appointment to the WFC he was chairman of the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), the major group of Western aid donors. Before that, he was deputy administrator of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

His specialized experience in food problems includes service as U.S. coordinator for International Food Relief and Rehabilitation during the 1970-71 emergency in India and Bangladesh and the 1972-74 drought in Africa. He is also a founder of the Club du Sahel [see article p. 00].

This extensive background in development and international food problems is reflected in the series of background papers prepared for delegates to the upcoming conference. They bring up to date the current food situation, problems to be overcome and progress to be made if the objective of enough food for everyone to live a dignified life is to become a reality in the next decade.



Maurice Williams, executive-director of the WFC believes it will take at least another decade of hard work to assure a hungry-free world in the foreseeable future.
Photo: FAO

Mr. Williams listed a number of encouraging developments on short-term issues such as improved food aid levels, the 500,000 tonne International Emergency Food Reserve (IEFR) and increased fertilizer availability. He said that more aid for agricultural research together with more attention being paid by the developing countries to the food sector has been achieved in the past few years.

Nevertheless, he bemoaned that progress during the past four years has not been commensurate with the increasing needs of the hungry and malnourished nor will it be sufficient to achieve the UN goal of a hungry-free world by 1985.

He is also alarmed that the return of good weather and the resulting good crops in much of the world during the past couple of years has induced complacency in both donor and developing nations rather than inspiring greater energy in taking advantage of the respite from food shortages to plan for the inevitable reverse of this situation.

Mr. Williams will present a detailed report on the activities of the WFC to date which will evaluate the progress it has made on the 20 resolutions of the Rome World Food Conference which constituted an international pledge to formulate a world food policy. This will be the first report of this kind to be made by the WFC.

Mr. Williams said that his greatest hope for the Ottawa conference is that there will emerge from it a consensus report that will help map out an effective attack on the world food problem. He hopes the council will be thus armed with tangible support to work towards world food security and a narrowing of the food gap through agreement be-

tween developed and developing nations.

Despite the fact that the council does not in itself launch programs, it is a powerful arm of the UN system in that it can initiate studies urge appropriate action by the other food and agriculture related bodies such as the FAO and the World Food Programme (WFP).

Its influence is significant because its representatives are at the ministerial level and the council's 34 members are representatives from all regions: nine from Africa, eight from Asia, seven from Latin America, four from the socialist states of Eastern Europe and eight from Western Europe and other states. Canada and the United States, the major food producers and food aid donors, have been members since the beginning.

THE FOOD SITUATION IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, 1979

- cereal stocks are expected to increase substantially for the fourth year in a row and will further exceed minimum levels required for world food security;
- aid to agriculture programs in developing countries has increased substantially since 1974 and concessional assistance is shifting in favor of the poorest countries;
- negotiations to replace the 1971 International Wheat Agreement which would contribute to world food security have been adjourned indefinitely;
- food aid shipments and contributions to the International Emergency Food Reserve continue to fall short of the agreed target;
- development assistance in the food and agriculture sector in developing countries is little more than half the estimated requirements;
- several developing countries have failed to initiate actions in their own countries which would improve the food situation through such measures as land reform, establishing equitable pricing and marketing policies to encourage farmers to produce more food for local and national consumption and redirecting more of their own resources to the agricultural sector.

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION ENCOURAGES "TRADITIONAL MEDICINE" IN THE THIRD WORLD

by Peter Ozorio

It is becoming increasingly evident that the developing world should not rely exclusively on Western-type medicine or on Western-trained physicians in attempting to provide health care for all their people.

What is needed is a synthesis between the best of modern with the best traditional medicine.

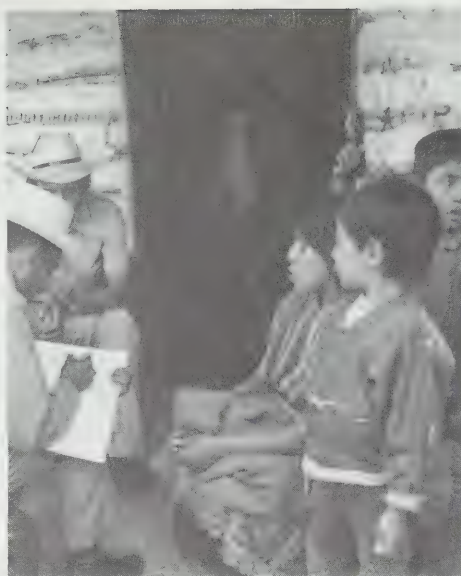
The executive board of the World Health Organization (WHO) recently passed a resolution which urges intensified efforts to promote programs of traditional medicine.

WHO advocates renewed interest in herbs, medicinal plants and traditional remedies and in the work of traditional healers and birth attendants such as the dai of India, the hilot of the Philippines and the partera of Mexico.

Interested governments will be assisted by WHO to develop more realistic and flexible approaches to their traditional and indigenous systems of medicine through health care programs adapted to their social and economic conditions.

Not only are there no physicians in most of the rural areas of the developing countries, but the ratio of auxiliary personnel is less than 1 to 10,000. It is therefore virtually impossible for most of the countries concerned to put the required number of physicians and nurses through medical schools. Even if enough suitable candidates could be found, the training would take too long and cost too much.

The World Health Organization is encouraging these countries to turn to the rich legacy of their "ancestral experience" for the personnel and the practices to redevelop traditional medicine. This should be done as part of a



This Guatemalan family is lucky to be visited by a health promoter. In most rural areas of the Third World, trained health care personnel are rare.

CIDA Photo: John Williamson

primary health care program which would provide a sound basis for providing services to millions of people now deprived of them.

A WHO report states, "since traditional medicine has been shown to have intrinsic utility, it should be promoted and its potential developed for the wider use of humanity."

Such considerations recently led the executive board of WHO to propose stepped-up efforts to promote traditional medicine programs. It called on the director-general of WHO, Halfdan Mahler, to assist interested governments to develop more realistic and flexible approaches to traditional medicine through health care programs adapted to the socio-economic conditions in developing countries.

This resolution also seeks the allocation of financial and other resources for traditional medicine. So far the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) has contributed about \$115,000 for WHO's program in 1979 and has pledged an additional \$500,000 over the next five years.

WHO's report cautions against the tendencies of some in the medical profession to regard traditional medicine as a practice on the decline and of no importance.

Indigenous midwives, for example, deliver about two-thirds of all babies born. But, despite their proven effectiveness, the talents of such practitioners—the bidans of Malaysia, the dais of India, the oukuns of Indonesia, the hilot of the Philippines, the par-

teras of Mexico—are often held in little regard by the medical establishment.

Yet the only recourse of tens of millions of people in rural areas is to the traditional birth attendant, the healer and the herbalist and to their tools of herbs, plants, and medicated oils.

Already three quarters of the world's population are emotionally and culturally tied to indigenous systems of health care largely because they have no access to modern medical care.

In some countries such as Sri Lanka, India, and China, traditional systems of medicine have already been recognized, legalized and well developed as separate systems in their own right.

In Sri Lanka, there are 10,000 practitioners and 6,000 more are being considered for registration. The traditional system of medicine in Sri Lanka meets the basic health needs of about 70 per cent of the population.

In India, there are about 500,000 practitioners of Ayurveda, a system of healing dating back about 5,000 years. Some practice Siddha a Tamil version or Unani. Others use Yoga as part of healing.

The WHO report noted that the blending of the old with the modern in China has resulted in a new, traditional Chinese medicine. About 70 diseases can be treated with acupuncture alone. A machine has been developed to give electrical pulsations to the needle thereby doing the job normally done by the practitioner's index finger and thumb.

This is the type of "mutual respect" between Western and traditional systems of medicine that WHO is advocating.

Some examples of traditional medicine:

- A plant common to the Eastern Mediterranean region, *Ammi visnaga*, contains properties effective in the treatment of angina pectoris.
- Pieces of root from a tropical plant, *Combretum mucronatum*, in Ghana, is being successfully used against guinea-worm.
- *Cymbopogon proximus*, a plant found in Egypt, is used as diuretic and to help remove small stones from the urinary tract.
- A Nigerian plant, known as 'bitter leaf,' kills mouth bacteria and makes the breath sweet smelling.
- A leaf, *Desmodium adscendens*, in combination with a root, *Thonningia sanguinea*, or root bark, *Deinbollia pinnata*, is effective against bronchial asthma.

Peter Ozorio is an information officer for the World Health Organization in Geneva.

DEVELOPMENT COMMENT

SMALL ISN'T NECESSARILY BEAUTIFUL IN THIRD WORLD AGRICULTURE

By George Dion

In some rural development circles, and too frequently in agricultural project descriptions and appraisals, there are signs that the "small is beautiful" philosophy is being carried too far, and it is implied (or we are encouraged to infer) that we should prefer labour-intensive technology rather than machines, and that the small farmer with hand tools and perhaps oxen is inherently better than a farmer using internal combustion engines.

The truth of the matter is that farming is exceedingly hard work, and in all periods of human history, and in all walks of life, man has tried to devise methods and to invent machines to relieve him of hard work—to make life easier—surely an essential part of improving "quality of life."

With human muscle power alone, a family can cultivate a small area and make a poor living on very good land. With oxen, they can cultivate a larger area, and on good land make a better living than with hoes. If pushed on to less productive land, sub-marginal for hand-hoeing, they can make a poor living. If the family has mechanical power, still more land can be cultivated, and a proportionately better standard of living can be achieved. For relatively dry areas—or areas where only a brief period is available for planting—mechanized agriculture is frequently the only means of exploitation because the land cannot be tilled and planted fast enough with oxen or horsepower.

With hand-hoeing or with ox-ploughing—using only muscle power—the family's income will be low. With good land, they will grow their own food, but will have little or no surplus for sale. They will not be able to pay taxes or to pay directly or indirectly for education or medical services. Their standard of living and quality of life will be much lower than that of even slum dwellers in the cities. In consequence, the



The only virtue of peasant farming is that it provides a low-life quality livelihood for a lot of people.
CIDA photo.

muscle-power farmer, and particularly his children, are tempted to join the ranks of the urban poor—there is less hard "labour."

Peasant farming is the kind of farming that small labour-intensive muscle powered farms perpetuates. It has only one virtue, it provides a kind of low life-quality livelihood for a lot of people.

It is precisely this group that Robert McNamara, president of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, is using as the target group for rural development. To increase the number of these rural poor is not a desirable development objective and is not what McNamara advocates.

To increase the productivity of the small farmer, the same technique applies as for industrial workers—output per worker increases as horsepower/worker increases. With the appropriate mix of mechanical energy, tools and land, the farm family's output increases greatly over the cost of inputs, and produces a marketable surplus. That family now operates a commercial farm. When the standard of living and quality of life of these commercial farmers equals that of urban workers, the rural urban migration can be affected, but not before the standards of living are equal.

Subsistence farmers (peasant farmers) are not significant in the economic life of their country. They buy and sell so little they are disregarded. They make no measurable contribution of GNP. They are in fact very nearly economic "zeroes" while still being very significant demographically, and somewhat less so socially.

The change from subsistence farming to commercial farming fosters the growth of trade, the growth of the buying network that takes the farmers' produce, and the growth of the selling network that provides not only the necessary agricultural inputs such as tools and machines, parts and maintenance service, seed, fertilizers and pesticides but also the consumer goods the family buys—clothing, shoes, radios, dishes, fish, fruit and foodstuffs they do not produce themselves.

A country cannot support its urban population without commercial farmers—in North America today only about 2 per cent of the population are farmers. This means that the 49 people who do not produce food are fed by one who does, and sells his surplus food. In slightly urbanized societies, for instance those with only 25 per cent of the population not engaged in farming, that 25 per cent buys surplus food from commercial farmers, not from subsistence farmers who have no surplus.

Ironically, the attraction of "small is beautiful" and the desire to develop and expand the numbers of a healthy peasantry, is strongest among the urban elites who enjoy not only urban social services, but also enjoy motorized transport, and machines (or perhaps servants) who can take the "labour" out of living—the peasant farmer using muscle power must still plough!

Too small is not beautiful, it is poor, ugly, and so onerous as to be soul destroying. Labour intensive may mean more people on the land, but labour on the land without the help of power and machines, is hard, brutal, and hard enough on the back to prevent those involved seeing the beauties of the simple life promulgated by urban theoreticians.

George Dion is an agricultural adviser to CIDA

Readers of Development Directions are invited to send submissions to this column. Items should not be more than 1,000 words, preferably typed and double spaced. Contributors should also include their complete address and phone number. Send submissions to:

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DEVELOPMENT DIRECTIONS

A NEWSMAGAZINE ON INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1979

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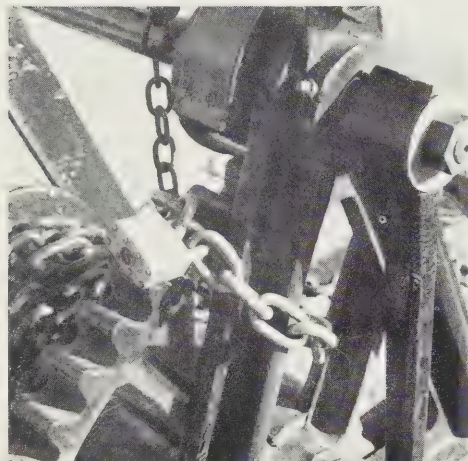




Canadian International
Development Agency

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VOLUME 2 NUMBER 6



In the November/December issue . . .

The importance of science and technology in Third World Development is crucial. World attention focused on this issue at the recent Vienna United Nations Conference on Science and Technology for Development (UNCSTD). A report on its findings and recommendations will be carried in the upcoming Development Directions as will a report of some of Canada's current and potential contributions to science and technology for the Third World.

Also featured will be an article on the solar energy experiments to benefit the Third World now being conducted at the BRACE institute near Montreal.

Some functioning examples of the new technology connection where one developing country shares its specially developed or adapted technology with another developing country will be described in an examination of the successes and potential for technical co-operation among developing countries.

The upcoming issue of Development Directions will also contain an analysis of the recent World Food council session held in Ottawa. There will also be a report on the innovative consultation on family farms with participants from developing and developed countries which included visits to family farms in Saskatchewan, Quebec and Prince Edward Island.

Development Directions is published six times a year by the Public Affairs Division of the Communications Branch, Canadian International Development Agency, under the authority of the Honorable Martial Asselin, Minister of State for CIDA.

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The opinions expressed in this magazine do not necessarily reflect the opinion or policies of the Canadian International Development Agency.

Development Directions welcomes letters to the editor. Submissions should be addressed to:

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Development Directions est également disponible gratuitement en français sous le titre Directions du Développement. Toute demande doit être adressée au responsable de la diffusion.

Directions du Développement

Agence canadienne de
développement international
200, Promenade du Portage
Hull, Québec, Canada
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ISSN 0705-064X

Second Class Mail
Registration Number 4353

Contract No. OKX7-1173
Beauregard Press
Printed in Canada

Cover:

Girls in Sri Lanka carry pan—used for weaving baskets into mats—to be dried in the sun. Almost all countries have no age minimum on when children can be used as agricultural labor. See item, page 5.

CIDA photo: Dilip Mehta

DEVELOPMENT DIRECTIONS

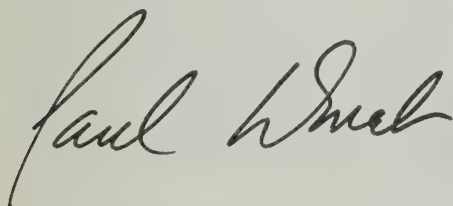
VOLUME 2 NUMBER 5 SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1979

A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The natural environment constitutes the only hope for survival for the poorest of the earth, who if left on their own might literally cut their means of survival out from under their own feet. The preservation of this environment is an essential component of development planning.

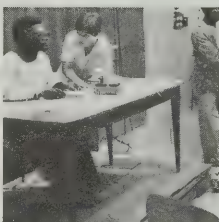
Our United Nations correspondent, Jeff Endrst, discusses threats to the environment and some solutions. Eric Eckholm of Worldwatch Institute writes about the future of the world's forests which are being reduced at the rate of 50 acres a minute. CIDA's forestry program is also examined.

Also in this issue: a report on a study of Canadian attitudes about the necessity of supporting a New International Economic Order to benefit the Third World and an analysis of the evolution of the venerable Colombo Plan now on the brink of reassessing its future after pioneering the concept of development assistance to the emerging nations of Asia almost 30 years ago.



Paul Doucet
Editor-in-chief

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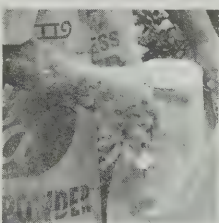
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AFRICA

CANADA ASSISTS TRAINING PROGRAM FOR AFRICAN JOURNALISTS



Some African students study television news production as part of a CIDA-assisted journalism education program in Senegal. CIDA photo: Michel Faugère

Every year approximately 40 communications graduates join the African job market as editors, commentators, interviewers or information officers after undergoing training assisted by funds from CIDA.

Since 1970, Canada and France have co-operated with two journalism schools in Africa to help meet a need frequently expressed by African leaders — to set up an information network staffed by professionals to give the public an objective, accurate picture of African life.

The African institutions involved are CESTI (the Centre for Study of Information Sciences and Techniques) in Dakar, Senegal and ESIJY (Ecole Supérieure Internationale de Journalisme) in Yaounde, Cameroon.

Both France and Canada (through CIDA) have contributed funds and instructors to the project. Canada's total contribution to the CESTI-ESIJY project since 1973 totals just over \$11 million.

CIDA gives more assistance to CESTI than to ESIJY. Canada defrays the cost of a three-month stay in Montreal for third-year ESIJY students, whereas it pays the entire cost of maintaining the school in Dakar. France is responsible for sending three instructors, and Senegal provides accommodation for the students on the University of Dakar campus.

The students finish their three years of theoretical and practical instruction in communications techniques at the African institutions and then attend a three-month intensive course at University of Montreal.

The training in Montreal is a valuable experience in which the African students have the opportunity to produce and broadcast radio and television programs and publish articles in newspapers such as Montreal's *Le Devoir*.

This year's group of students were from the equatorial and western regions of Africa. They spoke French or English, the languages of communications and education. In addition, they were representatives of traditional cultures and languages such as the Fulfulde of Cameroon, the Wolof of Senegal and the Dendi of Benin.

The students at this year's session in Montreal spoke favorably of their Canadian experiences and commended the work of the various Canadian instructors and administrators involved in the course.

Many were fascinated by Western communications methods and by the technological aspects of the field. This fascination, however, was tempered with a concern for the essential, the useful and the end product of the message to be communicated.

For these African students, the printed word was a vehicle for ideas and they wanted to perceive the mechanisms and methods of communication in order to eventually perfect them for adaptation in their own countries.

Young people from Africa learn quickly and this rate is accelerating according to educators who have had the chance to observe several groups of students since the Canadian part of the program started.

Even though in many cases little information gets through from one African country to another — because communications systems between some nations is almost nonexistent — the presence of the Western world in Africa, in contrast, is immediate and influential.

As one of the young women students from Benin remarked, "When Giscard d'Estaing sneezes, our country pulls out its handkerchief."

The nations of Africa are changing at a dizzying pace and the power of information seems to play a part in hastening change. This is one of the reasons

Africa wants its own communications professionals who will be able to influence the course of events.

Both CESTI and ESIJY have trained, over the years, many skilled individuals in communications theory, methods and techniques. For countries which still have a high rate of illiteracy, the training and experience received in Canada by these new journalism graduates is invaluable.

In Africa, where print or broadcast messages still convey an urgency which gives language its full meaning, the mass media have the potential to awaken or arouse the public.

It is with these thoughts in mind that this year's group of 47 students returned to their own countries.

CIDA FUNDS FOR MALAWI AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

A Canadian grant of \$12 million is to be used to help construct a natural resources college in Malawi.

The funds will be used to help design, construct and equip a training facility for about 700 students near the capital, Lilongwe. The college plans to offer courses in such subjects as farm management; crop, animal and land husbandry; fisheries; national parks; wildlife management; and veterinary science.

The total cost of the project, including the Malawi contribution, is estimated at \$14.1 million.

The five-year project is Canada's first involvement in this area of Malawi's development and is designed to integrate four existing training facilities. All teachers and administrative staff will be Malawians. Canadian involvement will be limited to the establishment of the building—including student dormitories—and initial organization of the college.

Canadian development assistance to Malawi amounted to \$15.8 million in grants during 1978-79 and is one of the largest CIDA programs in Commonwealth Africa. Until recently, Canadian activity there has been focused in the transportation sector particularly railways. Rural development projects are now being undertaken.

Most of Malawi's population lives in rural areas and most of Malawi's exports are agriculture-related.

EXPANDED INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS WITH CAMEROON

CIDA plans to undertake a major study of the potential for increasing the level of industrial co-operation between Canada and Cameroon. In addition, CIDA's Industrial Co-operation Program is initiating a project designed to foster the transfer of technical information to that West African republic.

CIDA will also co-operate with Alcan Aluminium Africa and Middle East Ltd. (Alcan Afrique) and the government of Cameroon in a study of the feasibility of establishing a bauxite industry in western Cameroon.

The scope of the study is still under discussion. CIDA's Industrial Cooperation Division has committed up to \$100,000 to it. Alcan Afrique and Cameroon are expected to pledge larger amounts. Alcan Afrique is a subsidiary of Alcan Aluminium Ltd.

The industrial co-operation program of CIDA can, under its new and expanded mandate, provide funding for feasibility studies up to \$100,000 to encourage Canadian firms to establish or expand existing operations in developing countries.

Also, CIDA will encourage the transfer of technical assistance to Cameroon through the Canadian Executive Service Overseas (CESO), the Federal Business Development Bank (FBDB) and the Canadian Standards Council.

CIDA helps Canadian businesses to establish partnerships with developing countries in order to assist industrialization and to strengthen long-term economic ties.

Last year Canada contributed \$16.1 million in bilateral aid and more than \$1 million through non-governmental organizations to Cameroon.

ASIA

NATIONAL POWER GRID FOR PAKISTAN

In Pakistan, power is urgently needed for a thousand uses but especially to operate countless tubewells for irrigation and drainage and to bring the benefits of electricity for the first time to thousands of villages.

Canada, to help Pakistan complete the backbone of a national power grid, has agreed to provide a \$50 million development loan to finance Canadian equipment and engineering services

for a second extra-high-voltage (500KV) line from Tarbela to Lyallpur. The loan, agreed to in principle three years ago, will come from CIDA funds and will be interest-free, repayable over 50 years including an initial 10 years of grace. It is one of the largest contributions ever made by Canada to a single development project.

Pakistan's grid—including the subcontinent's first 500KV line (an earlier Canadian-assisted link between Tarbela and Lyallpur) and sections south of Lyallpur being built with help from the World Bank and the Kuwait Development Fund—will carry huge amounts of low-cost hydroelectric power from massive Tarbela, the world's largest earth-filled dam, down through the country's agricultural and industrial heartland where it is vital to economic progress.

Among other things, such power will boost the vital effort to reclaim useless or marginal land through salinity control based on adequate flows of irrigation water, it will cut the need for expensive investment in generating capacity elsewhere, and it should free other resources such as oil and natural gas for chemical fertilizer production.

The new project will include detailed engineering design, construction supervision, and equipment for a 500/220KV substation and 260 miles of transmission line. Experience gained by Pakistan in constructing the earlier link will allow more equipment to be produced locally, with CIDA financing only the necessary Canadian material and services.

Canada has long been Pakistan's major partner in the power sector, where the priorities of Pakistan match especially well with Canadian capabilities. Over the past quarter-century Canada has provided about \$275 million for power projects in Pakistan. The Warsak Dam, for example, completed in 1961, was Pakistan's first major hydroelectric and irrigation project. It allowed 100,000 acres to be cultivated and 250,000 nomadic tribesmen to be resettled.

Besides energy-related projects, development co-operation between Pakistan and Canada currently includes water-drilling, land reclamation, grain handling, aerial surveying, port and railway development, and public health.

The Canadian Embassy in Islamabad has also helped to spark many small grassroots projects with contributions from mission-administered (MAF) funds.

LATIN AMERICA

NGO PROJECT IN HAITI EVALUATED BY CIDA

When ideas for self improvement originate in the grassroots of a community, it is likely that development towards improved social and economic conditions will be sustained.

This was among a number of conclusions reached recently at a two-day seminar sponsored by the Non-Governmental Organizations Division of CIDA to discuss an evaluation of an integrated rural development program launched in Haiti by the Montreal-based Brothers of the Sacred Heart in 1968.

Motivation and participation are essentials in a community's development program but unless the ideas too come from the bottom up, the program is not likely to continue once the outside helpers leave, it was noted.

On the theme of "Integrated Rural Development: The experience of CRUDEM," the seminar brought together participants from all branches of CIDA and 24 Canadian non-governmental organizations (NGOs). CRUDEM (Le Centre rural de développement de Milot), begun by the Brothers of the Sacred Heart in the north of Haiti as a school, developed into a multi-sectoral program reaching 200,000 people. At the request of CRUDEM authorities, CIDA agreed to carry out an evaluation of the program during the winter of 1978.

The evaluation report launched the debate which ranged from definitions of integrated rural development to the roles of "animateurs" in NGO and bilateral projects.

When CRUDEM was started, there were no roads leading to the region, no major industry, few sources of fresh water, five poorly attended schools and a population suffering from political repression.

The project organizers — members of a Roman Catholic religious order — began by sounding out the needs of the people and working with them to reorganize community life. Within five years the primary school system was reorganized, a vocational school, teachers' college and health centre opened. A credit union was established, clean water provided and a bus service between Milot and Cap Haitien — a distance of 25 kilometres — was set up.

In 1973 other communities in the region became involved in community projects such as roads and schools construction in order to benefit from CRUDEM's assistance. CRUDEM gradually diversified and expanded its operations to cover the entire Milot region, reaching 200,000 people in a 25-mile radius.

CRUDEM uses a four-part approach to attain self-sustained development designed to lead to an improvement in the economic and social conditions in the Milot region:

- Motivating people to become aware of their situation by involving them in material transformations;
- Organizing structures to enable people to manage their projects;
- Training people involved in projects;
- Withdrawing from a project once the people can manage it.

A general conclusion of the Evaluation Report is:

"Although few projects are operating independently, note-worthy changes have occurred since 1968. Thirty community councils, various types of schools, roads, culverts, wells, latrines, a health centre, a mobile clinic, power lines, a credit union, a crafts centre, a sugar cane co-operative and a bus service linking Milot and Cap Haitien and employment for approximately 1,000 people per year are just some of the concrete achievements to date."

CIDA's contribution to the project is \$450,000.

NOVA SCOTIA-BELIZE FISHERMEN TRAINING PROJECT CONTINUES FOR SECOND YEAR

A second group of fishermen from the Central American country of Belize have completed an eight-week training program at the Fisheries Training Centre at Pictou, Nova Scotia under a joint agreement between the Nova Scotia government and CIDA's VADA program.

This is the second year for the fisheries program which started last year as a pilot project. Under the agreement, 20 fishermen from Belize receive training in a number of fishing specialties including the operation of fishing gear, use of navigational aids and maintenance of light engines for small boats.

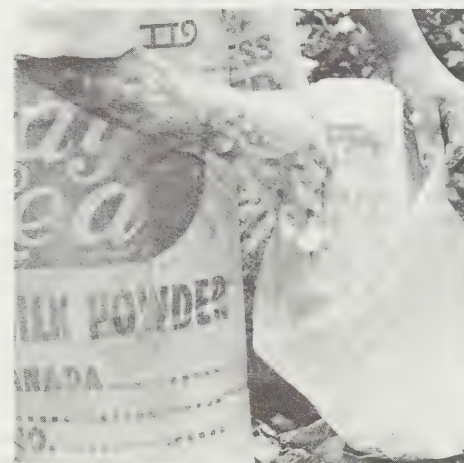
After completing their training in Pictou, the fishermen, all of whom are

experienced and members of the five co-operatives that make up Belize's fishing industry, undertook courses in organization and management of co-operatives at the Coady Institute at St. Francis Xavier University in Antigonish.

CIDA's contribution to this year's program was \$48,000 for transportation and expenses of the fishermen while in Canada. It was made through VADA—the Voluntary Agricultural Development Aid program—the federal-provincial group within CIDA that assists Canadian provinces to participate in development projects. Nova Scotia bore the training and lodging costs. The Belize fisheries training project is the first time Nova Scotia has undertaken a project with VADA assistance.

VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS

MILK POWDER STUDY BY N-S INSTITUTE



Canada's \$2 million skim milk powder program operated by non-governmental organizations is the subject of an independent study. WFP photo: Payton Johnson

An independent study indicated that a \$2 million skim milk powder aid program operated by nine Canadian non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and supported by the Canadian government is helping reduce malnutrition in 16 developing countries.

The study also indicates, however, that the milk powder program should be more carefully planned and targeted in future.

The 80-page study entitled *Handle With Care* was conducted by the Ottawa-based North-South Institute in co-operation with CIDA and the participating NGOs. It was based on six

months of research, field inspections in five countries and questionnaire responses from 11 other countries.

The study points out for the general public some of the shortcomings of the program and recommends possible improvements. The North-South Institute, which has several more aid evaluations planned or underway, accepts such studies only on the condition that their results are published.

The participating NGOs include: Canadian Lutheran World Relief, Compassion of Canada, Food for the Hungry, Mennonite Central Committee, Terre des Hommes, Canadian Save the Children Fund, Salvation Army, Unitarian Service Committee and World Vision of Canada.

The countries that had the field inspections included Bangladesh, Haiti, Honduras, India and St. Vincent.

Copies of the study, *Handle with Care*, are available for \$4.50 prepaid from: North-South Institute, 185 Rideau St., Ottawa, Canada K1N 5X8.

CIDA ANNUAL REPORT PUBLISHED

Canadian official development assistance to developing countries in 1978-79 rose by 10 per cent over the previous fiscal year to \$1.16 billion. An accounting of Canada's international development program is provided in CIDA's recently-published annual report for 1978-79.

The report notes that Canada and other industrialized countries have reached a turning point in international co-operation. The approach of 1980 signals the end of the United Nations second development decade.

The developed world, after taking stock of the progress made in developing countries since aid began in the early 1950s is gearing up for the 1980s. The report notes that there are still 800 million people living in absolute poverty and that emphasis on providing aid to the poorest people in the poorest countries will remain a constant in relations between the industrialized and developing countries.

The report notes, however, that certain developing countries have made significant progress but have not made the transition to modern societies. Canada will provide new forms of co-operation to these emerging middle-income countries.

In this context, importance is attached to the new industrial co-operation program launched in 1978 to encourage Canadian firms to establish or expand operations in developing countries, to assist those countries to create an environment conducive to industrialization, and to assist them to penetrate Canadian markets.

Bilateral (direct government-to-government) assistance accounted for the largest share of the budget, total budget, reaching \$559.35 million. Asian countries received 41 per cent, followed by Francophone Africa with 23 per cent, Commonwealth Africa with 19 per cent, and Latin America and the Caribbean with 15 per cent.

Canada provided \$490.91 million to support about 65 programs of multi-lateral organizations such as UN agencies, international development research institutions, the World Bank and regional development banks.

Canadian and international non-governmental organizations received \$70.79 million in support from CIDA and provincial governments. The remaining funds (about \$44 million) were used to support the International Development Research Centre, and for emergency relief, scholarship programs and miscellaneous programs. Detailed tables of all CIDA disbursements for the last three fiscal years are provided in the report.

Limited quantities are available free of charge from the Public Affairs Division, CIDA, 200 Promenade du Portage, Hull, Quebec, Canada K1A 0G4.

WATER HAZARDS FILM WINS INTERNATIONAL AWARD

A film produced for CIDA by the National Film Board (NFB) is winner of a silver medal in the environment category at this year's Varna International Film Festival in Bulgaria.

The 27-minute color film entitled *Water: The Hazardous Necessity* is about a vital element of life that also brings disease, blindness and death to many in the Third World.

The film points out that for poor countries, providing clean water is seldom a high priority because there is little obvious economic return and because the effects of contaminated water are not immediately apparent to the population.

While rich countries spend huge amounts on medical research for diseases like cancer, many in the Third World die of diarrhea, dysentery and other diseases caused by impure water. The film contends that the means to eliminate or alleviate the physical and social conditions which allow these water-borne tropical diseases to flourish do exist, but that economic and political considerations have shaped aid policies to take precedence over human misery caused by contaminated water.

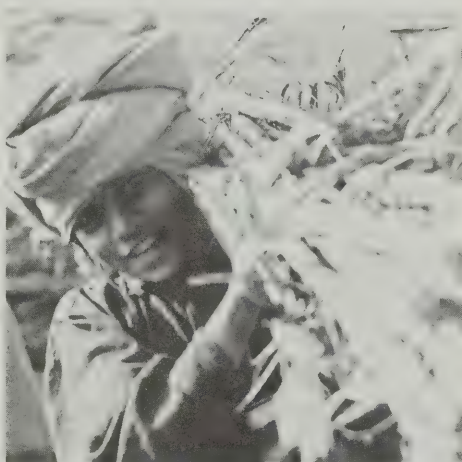
The film is part of a six-part series on human settlements issues made from film footage taken in developing countries for the 1976 United Nations Habitat Conference held in Vancouver.

The films are available on loan from National Film Board libraries across Canada and from Vision Habitat in Vancouver.

(The award-winning film was reviewed in the Aug./Sept. '78 issue of DD.)

INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF THE CHILD

THE ILO CONSIDERS CHILD LABOR A SERIOUS ISSUE



This young Pakistani boy is already earning his living by gathering waste material from sugar cane.
World Bank photo: Kay Muldoon

The International Labour Organization (ILO) estimates that there are more than 52 million children in the world who work. Some are only seven years old, most are exploited.

The ILO conducted a survey on "working children" as a special contribution to International Year of the Child and called the subject-matter of the study

an important aspect of economic and social development planning.

About 60 countries provided information regarding implementation of the ILO's most recent standards on the minimum age for employment but to date only 15 countries have ratified the convention and another 20 are considering accepting it.

The ILO Minimum Age Convention of 1973 sets the general minimum age for working at 15 although developing countries who accept the convention may initially set the minimum age at 14 and make other modifications.

Light work under specified conditions is permitted under the age convention by those as young as 13 although "dangerous work" is officially restricted to those 16, 18, or older.

The ILO reports that many developing countries have expressed doubts about their ability to ratify the convention because of the insufficient scope of their legislation particularly respecting agricultural work.

Several Third World countries have also indicated to the ILO that their laws do not yet govern 14 year olds. In Indonesia and Morocco for example, the average age for starting work is 12.

In India, a minimum age of 14 or 15 is laid down for work in a wide range of industrial activities but the legal age is only 12 for work on plantations and 12 to 14 in shops and commercial establishments.

Even in some developed countries including Canada, Switzerland and Norway, minimum age laws do not apply to work in agriculture.

ILO director-general Francis Blanchard made a special appeal in conjunction with International Year of the Child for all governments to take necessary social and legislative action for the progressive elimination of child labor.

Pending this elimination, he urged that child labor should be regulated and humanized so that children are protected from working conditions which may retard their normal physical and mental development.

He also said that a child is not a "small adult" but a person entitled to self-fulfilment through learning and play so that his adult life is not jeopardized by having to work at an early age.

CANADA HELPS BUILD VITAL RAIL LINKS IN BANGLADESH

Important questions are often answered by Bangladesh Railways. The running of the train determines whether fertilizer will come for the farmers, whether crops will move to markets, or even, in times of disaster, whether people will eat.

To help Bangladesh strengthen its rail system, Canada recently granted \$60 million to support a five-year program to upgrade operating efficiency. Bangladesh will contribute about \$8 million to meet local costs.

The railway rehabilitation program—designed, like many CIDA-assisted projects in Bangladesh, to help the country make the best possible use of existing resources—has three elements: rehabilitation of rail line and bridges, replacement or renewal of worn-out locomotives, and technical assistance to help Bangladesh Railways manage its limited resources at a high level of efficiency.

The program's success is vital to Bangladesh, since the rail system is the cheapest way to transport bulk commodities (rice, wheat, tea, jute, fertilizer and cement) and carries much of the country's imports and exports.

Canadian equipment has predominated in Bangladesh mainline service for two decades. Past Canadian suppliers have included Sydney Steel, MLW-Bombardier of Montreal, John T. Hepburn Ltd. of Toronto, and Lister Bolt and Chain of Vancouver. Canadian railway expertise has also been invaluable, making it possible, for example, to introduce innovative methods of fleet utilization that are especially appreciated in time of natural disaster.

CIDA has been able to draw upon railway capability from all across Canada, including such sources as B.C. Railways, Calgary consultants, Ontario Northern, and the two major railways, CN and CP.



Some local residents on the tracks of a section of the Canadian-assisted rail system that carries crops and fertilizers throughout Bangladesh.
CIDA photo

Most of the Canadian funds will be used to rehabilitate about 200 miles of rail line (12 per cent of the national system) and many bridges built to low strength standards as much as 80 years ago. Canada will supply rail (90 lb and 75 lb) for the two segments of the network (broad gauge west of the Brahmaputra River, metre gauge to the east), as well as steel girder material to strengthen bridges.

Bangladesh Railways will carry out the work with only minimal Canadian technical assistance and will meet the cost of local labor and additional material, such as ties and ballast for the raised roadbed needed because of frequent flooding.

The program's second element is equipment. Twelve 2,000-horsepower main line, broad gauge diesel electric locomotives, plus spare parts and training, will account for about \$11 million of the total, while nearly \$4 million will be used to put new Canadian engines in eight old diesel locomotives, following a successful pilot project. Bangladesh Railways, already hampered by locomotive shortages, faces a growing problem because more than half of its 300-plus steam engines are so obsolete that they may be scrapped in the next couple of years.

The third major element in the program consists of five years of Canadian technical assistance to help Bangladesh Railways improve its locomotive maintenance and material management. The cost of this technical assistance will be about \$6 million.

Canadian consultants (seven experts for five years, plus a project principal and short-term advisers) will provide classroom and on-the-job training in locomotive maintenance, and guidance in developing efficient management of spare parts and inventory. Most of the Canadians will serve in the major diesel locomotive workshops at Chittagong, Dacca and Parbatipur.

The aim will be to raise locomotive availability to about 85 per cent (comparable to Canadian levels), a target already achieved in some areas through previous Canadian technical assistance. The scope of the shortage of skilled personnel, largely caused by losses during and after the 1971 war, is reflected in the goal of this technical assistance project: to train as many as 750 Bangladeshi apprentices to carry out locomotive maintenance, re-engining and rehabilitation.

Previous Canadian assistance to Bangladesh Railways includes 12 diesel electric locomotives provided in 1978 to replace equipment destroyed in the 1971 civil war and, before that, 40 locomotives sent to the former East Pakistan through Export Development Corporation financing. Ten Bangladesh Railways staff came to Montreal as part of last year's locomotive program; they received brief "update" courses and are now at work in Bangladesh, training the technicians who maintain the railway's locomotives and serving as supervisors and overseers.

Bangladesh has received development assistance from Canada since 1972, shortly after independence and recently has been CIDA's largest country program, in terms of total expenditures, with about \$72 million disbursed in each of the past two years. Substantial amounts of food aid have been provided, as well as shipments of fertilizer and industrial commodities, and about 30 bilateral projects are under way in such fields as agriculture, energy, transport, and community development.

CIDA has also contributed about \$2.5 million during the past two years to help Canadian non-governmental organizations carry out some 30 grassroots development projects in Bangladesh. **DD**

RICE PRODUCERS TO BUILD GERMPLASM BANK AS GUARD AGAINST FUTURE THREAT

Imagine a world without rice! The seemingly unthinkable could happen, according to agricultural scientists.

The rapid and widespread adoption of improved and high-yielding varieties of rice, they say, is leading to genetic uniformity which could make the world's most widely used staple-cereal vulnerable to sudden destruction by blight, virus or insect infestation.

Rice scientists are concerned about the rapid disappearance of genetic resources in many parts of the world. Several primitive and wild varieties of Asian rice have become extinct. Many others, such as "unselected species" which grow in the wild, are facing extinction in Southeast Asia.

Genetic diversity of a cereal provides a natural safeguard against total crop loss due to environmental factors. If one variety of a cereal, for example, becomes infected by virus or is destroyed by blast, a fungus disease, other varieties are used by plant breeders to develop new cereal strains.

As a hedge against the future threat to the sudden destruction of rice, major rice-producing countries are being urged to join in building up an international collection of rice germplasm.

In consultation with national and regional rice research institutes all over the world, scientists at the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) at Los Banos, the Philippines, have prepared a five-year plan for germplasm collection in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

The germplasm is to be stored at IRRI's Genetic Resources Laboratory. IRRI so far has a collection of more than 45,000 rice strains, merely a fraction of known rice germplasm in the world.



Paddies such as this one near Bandung, Indonesia are increasingly vulnerable to natural blights if genetic diversity among rice

varieties continues to diminish. UN photo

According to IRRI sources, among the areas from which rice germplasm has not been collected so far are northeast India, Sikkim, Bhutan, upper Burma, northern Viet Nam and southwestern China.

The five-year programme is of special significance to the Asian countries which produce more than 80 per cent of the world's rice crop estimated at 363 million tons this year.

Rice is probably the world's most genetically diverse cereal crop. At least 20 distinct rice species are found in the tropics. About 100,000 varieties of the Asian rice alone are grown in more than 100 countries.

Rice varieties have different characteristics, such as tolerance to cold and high altitudes, early maturity and resistance to diseases and insects. Agricultural scientists use these varieties, including wild rices, in breeding research to develop improved strains of rice.

For the past 12 years, IRRI has been developing improved varieties of rice through cross breeding and manipulation of genes. Currently, with funds from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Institute is carrying out an international rice testing program which has become a major channel of co-operation among developing country rice scientists for exchanging rice germplasm and technology.

The germplasm collection plan has the backing of rice research institutes in India, Japan, Thailand, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Burma, Bangladesh, Nepal, Indonesia, Malaysia, Iran, the Republic

of Korea, Brazil, Mexico, Ecuador, the United States, France and the Soviet Union.

Regional institutes likely to assist IRRI in germplasm collection drive are the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture, Nigeria, the West Africa Rice Development Association, Liberia, Institut de Recherches Agronomiques Tropicales et des Cultures Vivrières and Office de la Recherche Scientifique et Technique Outre-Mer, France, and Centro Internacional de Agricultura Tropical, Colombia.

IRRI officials hope that their scheme would also have the support of China, the largest rice producer in the world, Viet Nam, Kampuchea and Laos.

Although most rice-producing countries collect germplasm either nationally or regionally, they lack refrigerated seed storage facilities and have only limited staff to collect and maintain rice germplasm. IRRI's Genetic Laboratory will provide a means of storing germplasm on a long-term basis.

Data on all germplasm will be kept in an easily retrievable form in a computer bank at IRRI. It will be made available to all rice researchers upon request. IRRI will also provide specified rice strains to national cooperating scientists for use in developing improved rice varieties. **DD**

This article was provided by the United Nations Development Programme information office.



Man-induced alterations of the environment may be threats to development, particularly in the Third World which is just starting to feel the negative effects of environmental damage.
Photo: Capital Press, Canadian Government Photo Centre, IDA.

THE DEVELOPMENT- ENVIRONMENT CONNECTION

by Jeff Endrst
UN correspondent

Development now emerges simply as the effort of human beings to improve and make secure their living environment. The goals of sound development — a better living environment for everybody — include public health and the security of future resources. When these concerns are ignored or overridden, nations may get growth but they do not have development.

The development-environment connection is a major theme of many international endeavors this year. It falls on the 10th anniversary of the UN General Assembly decision to convene in 1972 a UN Conference on the Human Environment in Stockholm. In 10 short years, the world has drastically modified its vision of the future of humankind and the small planet which provides its home.

Since the Stockholm conference, the issues in the development-environment relationship have been clarified. Among the insights gained through the international debate is the idea that development is not just the spread of a certain pattern of industrialization but a continuing global phenomenon.

It is now recognized that technologies and lifestyles will continue to change to accommodate life in the post-oil era and to accommodate other man-induced alterations of the present environment.

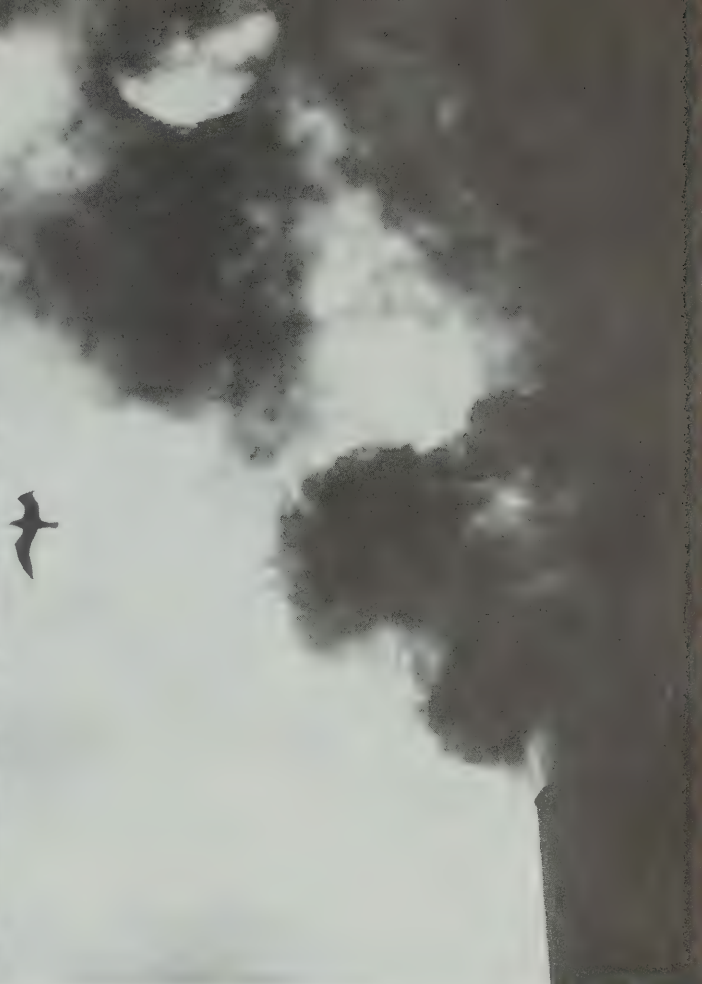
It is now understood that environmental concern reinforces the concept of inter-dependence. There is growing recognition that the poorest of the poor will, if unaided, literally cut the ground from under their feet by a desperate assault upon their environment as their only hope of immediate survival.

Unless, for example, the international community can help to check the destruction — without replanting — of the Third World's forest cover at an estimated present rate of 25 hectares every minute by offering "forest colonizers" a better alternative than the "slash and burn" subsistence of their ancestors, they will be gradually decimated by starvation following massive soil erosion and desertification.

In the meantime, according to the UN Environmental Program (UNEP) in Nairobi, with the prospect of the Third World's entire forest cover disappearing in less than 50 years from now, climate change, erosion and siltation could so alter the earth's life supporting capacity that mankind may well be shown the way to dusty death.

Recognizing this, the UN Development Program (UNDP) has been intimately and inevitably involved in the work of environmental protection and improvement. UNDP has devoted \$622 million during the past 12 years to 650 projects to develop the natural environment. This includes animal and plant life, water and soil, weather prediction and air quality, and mineral discovery and production. Another \$965 million has been devoted to improving the human environment, to rural and urban communities, to transport, to population education and training, to energy production, communications, and improved social infrastructure.

The environmental dimension will have to be adequately reflected in the formulation of the UN development strategy for the 1980s decade and beyond. UN economic planners say that the goal of environmentally sound and sustainable development could be one of



the major unifying themes of the international development strategy.

Meanwhile, development sometimes appears the cause of some environmental setbacks. The Third World countries are still clamoring for the right to develop with the assistance of nuclear power plants while potential radiation danger from such plants in the industrialized countries is arousing ever-greater political passions.

Surprisingly, however, nuclear power dangers were not even featured in the 1979 State of the Environment report issued by UNEP. The reports instead focused on the noise pollution, the social and environmental consequences of unguided tourism the spreading snail scourge and comeback by insects and mites against pesticides.

Schistosomiasis (snail fever) has now become one of the world's greatest health scourges with an estimated 200 million victims. Noise pollution caused 16,000 people to lose hearing in one year in Sweden alone. International tourism has jumped to 243 million "arrivals" a year and is rapidly degrading some of the most beautiful places on earth. About 364 pests — from the malaria mosquito to the boll weevil — have now developed resistance to the

pesticides used against them, and major crops like cotton and rice are once again at high risk.

UNEP warns that snail-fever now casts its shadow over 600 million people in 72 countries. Ironically, development itself has paved the way for its advance. Thousands of dams and irrigation schemes have provided wide new breeding grounds for the fresh-water snails which carry the schistosomiasis parasite. A breakthrough in the search for a vaccine cannot be expected before year 2,000, says UNEP.

Suicides in Bolivia are sharply up among potato-growing farmers who have lost hope that new chemical weapons could be effective against moths plaguing their fields, or that they could return the creative potential of the land.

Billions of dollars have been spent to promote greater production of food around the world through pest-killing pesticides. Now they are fighting back, and 364 species of insects and mites can survive DDT and Dieldrin attacks. One of the immediate consequences is a dramatic resurgence of malaria. UNEP warns of the dangers that all pests are likely to develop resistance to all types of chemical pesticide in time, with grave effects on both world

health and world food production.

Efforts to legislate against noise menace date back to ancient Rome when a law was passed to ban chariot racing at night. Today, there are some 500 occupations which are noisy enough to be a danger to hearing. Noise pollution also causes high blood pressure, and even ear, nose and throat disorders. Psychologically, the common symptoms of irritability, tension, moodiness and fear may only be the tip of a largely uncharted iceberg of noise consequences which may seriously affect human behavior and relationships.

The tourist in developing countries brings money, creates jobs, builds hotels, roads and airports. But he may also be a mobile menace to the environment. There is a social backlash to the tourism boom. It can create economic and even racial tensions. It can spark aspirations towards life-styles totally out of reach of the population of a Third World country.

UNEP argues that it is essential to prevent serious damage to the environment and heritage, but also to preserve the pleasures and benefits of tourism itself, by striking a balance between developmental and environmental needs of a country. **DD**



All forestry projects, in order to be of long-term benefit, must take into account sound and scientific forest management techniques.
CIDA photos: Capital Press, Canadian Government Photo Centre, IDA.

CIDA'S FORESTRY PROGRAM

Although Canada has been involved in well over 100 major Third World forestry projects in at least three dozen countries since the 1950s, it is almost literally true that CIDA hasn't helped plant a single tree—except indirectly through assistance to non-governmental organizations.

CIDA forestry specialist Ralph Roberts explains this by saying that Canada is still seen in the eyes of much of the world—including many developing countries—as “loggers” rather than “planters.”

He contends, however, that Canada is coming of age in silviculture—the development and care of forests—and that this type of expertise is now available for Third World nations requesting it.

He would like to see CIDA become more involved in creating new forests in the developing countries. An afforestation—tree planting—project in Kenya, the first of its kind that may be undertaken by CIDA, is still awaiting final approval.

“The world is coming out of the stage where we have seemingly endless amounts of god-given wood resources. The new thrust of tropical forestry should be on ‘forests for people’ which will provide direct benefits to the poor rural population rather than emphasize only the industrial sector that exports the timber resources.

“European donors are generally more active in forestation than we are. Third World nations are aware of Canada's high calibre forestry expertise but they are not yet asking for Canadian assistance for many tree-planting-type projects.”

Mr. Roberts, who spent seven years as a forestry adviser in Africa before joining the agency's headquarters staff in 1972, pointed out that the World Bank, other international financial institutions and agencies of the United Nations are also supporting attempts to expand or improve forestry-related aspects of the environment.

These include village fuelwood plantations, protection of forests for the stabilization of sand dunes, regulation of waterflow, control of soil erosion and the cultivation of forests for increased food production and shelter for humans and animals.

Conceivably, CIDA could contribute directly to such international afforestation efforts alone or in co-operation with other donor agencies.

A properly managed forest is a renewable resource which increases steadily in value as the proportion of forested land diminishes due to agricultural expansion, desert encroachment, highways and urban sprawl.

The challenge is to convince other donors and recipient governments to invest in such projects which will start to produce returns only after 10 to 12 years.

Mr. Roberts is quick to point out, however, that tree planting is only one sub-sector of forestry and that CIDA has certain constraints on the types of bilateral forestry programs it undertakes.

First, a developing country must request a forestation project and second, this type of project can cause disbursement problems for CIDA because such projects can require that at least 85 per cent of the project funds be spent on local labor and materials.

Usually, CIDA bilateral projects involve local expenditures of only about 20 per cent. Mr. Roberts is optimistic that this administrative hurdle can be overcome for many country programs within CIDA's current untying authority.

This is not to indicate, however, that CIDA does not have an active forestry program in other major fields of activity such as forest management, forest utilization and training and education. Quite the contrary.

At the beginning of this fiscal year, the agency's forestry sector budget was \$106.5 million for 36 projects in 19 countries. An equal number of projects are in the planning stage. All projects attempt to take into account sound and scientific forest management techniques.

More than half of the projects are devoted to forest resource development—assisting developing countries to assess the extent, quantity and quality of their forest resources and to manage and control the uses to which these resources are put.

The remainder of the projects are concerned with forest industry development—assisting developing countries to commercialize their forest industry resource while giving careful consideration to the environmental and developmental impact.

Projects underway include five resource appraisal projects, four of which provide for the conduct of forest inventories in Guyana, Indonesia, Honduras, Trinidad and Tobago. The fifth, in Cameroon, is a general sector study designed to assess the prospects for forestry development in that country.

All these projects include a technical assistance component and some provision for equipment and services such as vehicles and aerial surveys.

The CIDA projects are also designed to strengthen forest services in developing countries. Projects in Zaire, Indonesia, Guyana, Honduras, Brazil, Kenya, Peru and Swaziland have been designed to assist the institutions responsible for forest resource development to achieve this development in an economically, ecologically and socially rational manner.

CIDA'S FORESTRY SECTOR PROJECTS

| Sub-sector | Number of projects | Project budget \$ million | Countries |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Forestry resource development | 22 | 55.36 | Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Nepal, Kenya, Swaziland, Zaire, Senegal, Cameroon, Ivory Coast, Niger, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Honduras, Peru, Burma. |
| Resource appraisal | 5 | 24.61 | |
| Institution building | 10 | 12.21 | |
| Training and education | 7 | 18.52 | |
| Forest industry development | 14 | 51.11 | Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Nepal, Kenya, Swaziland, Zaire, Senegal, Cameroon, Ivory Coast, Niger, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Honduras, Peru, Burma. |
| Pulp and paper | 6 | 2.81 | |
| Mechanical wood processing | 6 | 28.06 | |
| Equipment loans/lines of credit | 2 | 20.23 | |
| Total | 36 | 106.47 | |

Other projects in Senegal and Honduras are directed towards the establishment—in conjunction with the appropriate institutions—of effective forest conservation and protection measures.

CIDA is involved in projects in Zaire, Indonesia, Peru, Kenya and Brazil which include the education of professional foresters and support for forestry vocational training.

CIDA also supports pulp and paper projects in Ivory Coast, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka. In Ivory Coast, grant funds have been allocated for the testing of mixed tropical hardwoods to determine whether these indigenous timbers may be combined to produce a marketable pulp. In Bangladesh, grant funds have been allocated for the upgrading of instrumentation at the Khulna pulp and paper mill. Two pulp and paper technical assistance projects underway in Sri Lanka have a combined value of \$1.8 million.

There are six mechanical wood processing projects including the establishment of sawmills and wood-based panel plants in Burma, Honduras, Guyana and Zaire.

Approximately 40 per cent of CIDA's expenditures for forest industry development is in the form of equipment loans. Lines of credit for forestry equipment purchases in Canada have been extended to Guyana (\$8.3 million) and Honduras (\$12 million).

Canadian forestry technology has proven transferable to tropical conditions although modifications and adaptation is often required.

SHRINKING FORESTS THREATEN US ALL

by Erik Eckholm

In the South American jungle, a settler burns a clearing and plants his first crop. In the Himalayan hills, a woman hacks away at living trees to get firewood for cooking dinner. In Central Africa, loggers clear a patch of valuable trees and are followed by land-hungry farmers.

Stick by stick, tree by tree, the world's forest wealth is dissipating. Now covering about one-fifth of the earth's land surface, forests are shrinking by an area the size of Cuba each year—that is, by more than 50 acres for every minute of every day. The main causes

of deforestation are the spread of agriculture, the gathering of firewood, and irresponsible logging.

Although the forest losses are concentrated in Africa, Asia, and Latin America, people everywhere will be affected. Thousands of unique, irreplaceable plant and animal species will vanish along with the lush forests of the humid tropics. Meanwhile, the real prices of forest products—and hence of new housing, furniture, paper, and countless other wood-based goods—are already rising worldwide, increasing inflation rates.

The most severe effects, of course, will be felt by those who live in, around, and downstream from the denuded lands. Efforts to meet the basic social needs of the billion people living in extreme poverty are being undercut by deforestation.

As Indian forester R. Chakravarti writes: "It is often said that the three basic needs are food, clothing, and shelter. But one cannot think of food and shelter without wood." One-third of humanity relies entirely on firewood for cooking fuel. As forests recede, wood becomes more expensive and harder to locate; families in parts of West Africa have been reduced to one rather than two hot meals a day. In some regions of India, families must devote two days' labor a week to the search for firewood.

Forests also affect food prospects through their ecological roles. As the Himalayan hills are stripped bare, the incidence of disastrous floods downstream in India is rising because monsoon rains rush furiously off deforested slopes. Soil washed off denuded hills is rapidly filling in valuable reservoirs as well. Along the edge of the African Sahara, tree cutting has contributed to the transformation of pastures and fields into desert.

As firewood becomes scarce, people begin using cow dung for fuel rather than for fertilizer, depriving croplands of sorely needed nutrients. Thus can shrinking forests be translated into shrinking food supplies.

Efforts to meet both rural and urban housing needs are undermined by timber scarcity. Even in the U.S. and Canada with their comparative forest wealth, soaring timber prices are helping to drive house prices beyond the reach of the middle class. But in Pakistani cities, a simple board costs twice as much as in the United States, though the income of the average American is 46 times that of the average Pakistani.

Development planners' ignorance about the importance of forests has been reflected in the paucity of programs to replant denuded landscapes. Quite recently, however, interest in forestry has surged among national leaders and development agencies. For example, the World Bank plans to multiply its support for such activities as village woodlots and environmental rehabilitation, while the U.S. Congress has directed the Agency for International Development to give new attention to forestry.

The major need, many thoughtful foresters are beginning to see, is for the mobilization of rural people to plant trees to meet their own elementary needs and to protect the lands off which they live. Reforestation carried out by deprived people themselves can augment global forest resources as it directly benefits those in greatest need.

The difficulties are legion, but experience has proved that community-based forestry can succeed. China's widely admired forestry accomplishments have been matched in the '70s in South Korea, where extensive planting by village associations has solved an acute firewood problem. One Indian state, Gujarat, is now defying the common wisdom about India's development constraints by implementing a successful village woodlot program.

By any account, a stupendous number of trees must be planted over the next two decades if massive economic and environmental disruptions are to be avoided. John Spears of the World Bank calculates that at least 50 million acres of plantations must be established by the century's end in Africa, Asia, and Latin America just to meet projected firewood needs. Yet, at current rates, only five million acres, one-tenth of the requirement, will be planted by then.

Even as tree planting programs are pushed, the deeper roots of deforestation must be eradicated. Uncontrolled deforestation is usually a symptom of a society's inability to get a grip on other fundamental development problems: agricultural stagnation, grossly unequal land tenure, rising unemployment, rapid population growth, and the incapacity to regulate private enterprise to protect the public interest. Clearly, the forest problem cannot be solved by foresters alone. **DD**

Erik Eckholm is a researcher with Worldwatch Institute in Washington, D.C., and author of *Worldwatch Paper 26, Planting for the Future: Forestry for Human Needs*.

Foreign aid gives loans to be leader on 2 items world trade talks

Business, or Third World? aid poor nations

By Andre McNicoll

(McNicoll is an Ottawa sociologist.)

Canadians must give more to developing countries

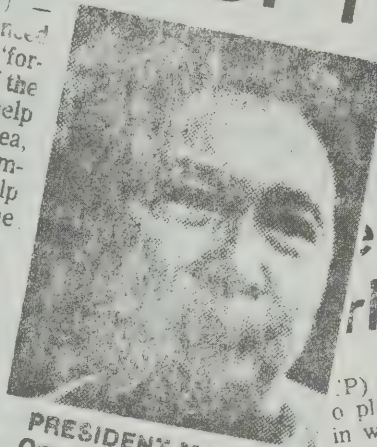
— Canada serve less themselves foreign aid w, Don day. tary of said if don't the second mistically la cial exchange

MANILA — (UPI) — Western powers announced yesterday they would "forgive the debts of a few of the poorest countries" and help the prices of tea, sugar and other commodities in a effort to help some of the poorest nations.

is a nation where jobs are scarce and trading opportunities are limited. Interest in foreign aid is growing, the possibility of greater political tension in the Third World will increase.

Speaking at Dalhousie University, Jamieson said southern Africa is potentially the hottest trouble spot on the globe today. With Rhodesia and South Africa among the only countries in the world with racial separation constitutionally enshrined.

In the often-ruffled Indian International Development Corporation (CIDA) held on aid to the answer sounding no. by the public's over the Canada Development Corporation's roughly \$600 million in aid to the rich and the poor.



PRESIDENT MARCOS
Opened UN conference

The 111-page document sets forth a comprehensive program for curing the ills of developing nations, but most of its demands are deemed unacceptable by the United States and other industrial powers.

(P) — Canada to play an important role in world trade negotiations in Manila.

Affairs officials will be spokesmen in two key sessions of the month-long session of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

Federal officials say they expect poor countries to strongly criticize the West for a recent agreement in Geneva reducing tariffs and import quotas. The developing countries say the West reduced tariffs on Western products but discriminated against imports from poor nations.

So far only Argentina in the so-called "Group of 77" has a company of interest among developing countries.

UNITAR-CIDA STUDY

CANADIAN ATTITUDES TOWARDS A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER FOR THE THIRD WORLD

by Ben Malkin

The author of a survey of Canadian attitudes towards the establishment of a New International Economic Order to benefit the Third World summed up his findings in an interview by saying "people are going to be concerned with domestic problems until they become aware that international problems are also domestic problems."

John O'Manique prepared the study for the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and the Centre for Economic and Social Studies in the Third World. The study, entitled Progress in the Establishment of a New International Economic Order: Obstacles and Opportunities, is in connection with the special session on development to be held by the United

Nations General Assembly in May 1980. CIDA contributed \$5,000 towards preparation of the study.

Mr. O'Manique is on the staff of the Paterson School of International Affairs at Carleton University in Ottawa. He teaches a half-course on the cultural and ethical dimensions of development, and another half-course on society, values and technology, in which he deals with such matters as ethics and ecology.

In his study, Canada's experts emerge rather well. Government officials, parliamentarians, labor leaders, church leaders, some heads of large business corporations, recognize (though in varying degree) the need to maintain the momentum of development aid. The major obstacles lie with the "power holders"—the taxpayers, the people who wear hard hats to work, the cabinet ministers and legislators who represent them: in short, the general public.

Not that there is a lack of good will toward the Third World. It is more a lack of awareness of how acute the Third World's problems are, and how failure to solve them may affect Canada.

A further obstacle is the conviction held by the business community—one of the most influential sections of the public—that more should be left to private enterprise and less to governments when promoting economic development in the Third World. Although some businessmen do support government aid programs, many take a cautious approach toward such questions as the writing-off of Third World debts; they believe that commodity prices are best set through the free market, despite the complaints of Third World countries that their commodity exports don't earn enough to pay for manufactured goods during an inflationary period.

The business community also believes that the transfer of technology from the developed to the underdeveloped world is best done through private enterprise, although joint ventures with Third World governments are well thought of.

Despite good will at the level of governments and experts from the various sectors of the Canadian community, Mr. O'Manique doesn't see much hope of maintaining even the current level of Canadian aid as a percentage of the Gross National Product, let alone increasing it to the goal of .7 per cent, as set by the UN and acknowledged as

desirable in Canadian government policy. The highest point reached was .58 per cent. Since then, there has been a decline to .51 in 1977 and about .5 in 1978.

There is no prospect of any improvement this year. Yet the House Committee on External Affairs and National Defence has urged 1980 as the target date for the .7 per cent goal, while the Economic Council of Canada last year said that though this goal may be unattainable soon because of Canada's economic condition, the percentage should not be allowed to fall below .5 per cent.

The possibility is that it will—at least this year. True, Mr. O'Manique conducted his survey before the June federal election, but he has since seen no change in the policy of allowing the amount of development aid as a percentage of the GNP to decline. He did say, in a recent interview, that External Affairs Minister Flora MacDonald and Minister of State for CIDA Martial Asselin appear zealous in the development cause. Prime Minister Clark, too, seems concerned with international issues, despite current domestic economic difficulties.

But the problem that faced former prime minister Pierre Trudeau remains unsolved: a public not deeply enough concerned with the plight of the Third World, its hunger and destitution; though Canadians are incomparably well off when seen through Third World eyes, they continue to be engrossed in their own economic problems.

Mr. O'Manique's study identifies some of the major development problems in the Third World thus:

Tied aid; renegotiation of debts; technical aid, reduction of tariff and non-tariff barriers which limit the export of manufactured goods from the underdeveloped to the developed countries; the transfer of technology, to support more labor-intensive industries in the Third World; indexation of Third World export prices on commodities; regulation and supervision of the activities of multinational firms.

These are of course familiar problems. Mr. O'Manique finds the Canadian government approach to them has to take into account varying domestic forces. Sometimes there is so much pushing and hauling at a policy from different directions that nothing gets done. For example, on indexation of Third World export prices:

"There is no government policy in this area. However, given the recognition of the disruptions caused by price fluctuation, the government is committed to consider these issues. The House

committee recommends a 'co-ordinated approach' to commodity problems in which case-by-case negotiations could lead to a more integrated set of arrangements as proposed by UNCTAD. The Economic Council supports price stability through buffer stocks and supply management schemes for specific stocks (e.g. wheat).

"The business community does not support these measures and would prefer price adjustments to be determined by the market system. Labor and the Churches would support measures to stabilize prices and to fix Third World export prices to import costs."

Or, take the transfer of technology:

"Government policy supports technology transfer to Third World countries 'appropriate to their level of development,' and directed at basic needs. The House Committee says that technology transfer should be regulated by an international agreement.

"The business community favors mechanisms for technology transfer which are related to corporate investment, whereas Labor and the Churches favor means not controlled by corporations."

Small wonder that the government sees such problems as worthy of study, and more study, but finds it difficult to produce solutions.

Mr. O'Manique thinks a beginning should be made through greater public awareness of the problem of development. "This would range," he argues, "from the very detailed understanding of the complex issues required by the policy makers to the general awareness that the man-in-the-street would need if he is to give general support to the policies. In a democratic society this general public awareness is critical."

Awareness should be followed by "sufficient concern about the problems to cause leaders to do something about them and the people to support what their leaders do. The concern could be based on a feeling of benevolence for those who suffer the problems, a sense of duty to others, or, as is probably more common, a recognition that it would be to everyone's benefit to solve the problem—in other words, self-interest."

Once that's achieved, policies can and should be formulated, and put into practice. Mr. O'Manique finds it necessary to emphasize the latter. In his survey, he points to instances where policy and practice don't coincide, the percentage of GNP devoted to economic aid being one.

In his researches, he found that lack of awareness, or perhaps lack of concern, was a factor in the federal cabinet. Many members of Parliament didn't share with the prime minister and external affairs minister much concern for Third World development, as opposed to their preoccupation with domestic affairs. On a more optimistic note, Mr. O'Manique writes that there is, however, a significant and growing awareness "among the very influential large corporations—especially those with international dealings."

The resident international affairs experts of the Canadian Labor Congress are of course sharply aware of Third World problems, but they have failed to infect the rank-and-file with their zeal. The same may be said for church leaders and their pew holders, and for academics with international expertise vis-à-vis their colleagues without.

Mr. O'Manique charges that "in spite of Mr. Trudeau's often stated advocacy of a Platonic approach whereby government leaders would educate the people so that they would freely follow those leaders toward 'the good,' and his condemnation of leaders who failed in this responsibility, the government has done virtually nothing to present the international issues to the public."

As for the media, if I interpret the results of O'Manique's researches correctly, the only awareness they have is of the cash register.

Having spent 45 years in newspaper work, I'd agree that Mr. O'Manique has a point. He writes:

"Nor will the people gain much in this area (international economic development) from the Canadian media, which concentrate on the domestic, the shocking, the immediate, and, in general, what will sell their product."

At another point, he says:

"There is a strong tendency for the press to publish what they believe their readers want to read—domestic issues which have an obvious impact on their lives, events that are spectacular, or bizarre—but little tendency to attempt to educate, or to present and analyse complex issues. Recently, as a result of studies of reader preferences, some newspapers have moved toward an even greater proportion of 'soft news'—items on travel, entertainment, restaurants, fashion—the information that will sell newspapers to an affluent and consuming public."

Mr. O'Manique agrees that events in Rhodesia, South Africa, the Israel-Egypt peace talks, civil war in Lebanon, the Indochinese refugees, have received considerable coverage.

But the complex issues of international development haven't, and don't, except perhaps occasionally and spasmodically.

He doesn't moralize about the condition of the media. He merely sees it as an obstacle to public awareness and therefore to Canadian developmental aid—although most newspapers, ironically enough, do favor economic aid, whenever they happen to think of it. But like everyone else, I suppose, publishers have to make a living, which means keeping a close eye on circulation figures. The question is, what to do? Mr. O'Manique thinks a multiple attack on the problem is required.

"Awareness," he writes, "must start from the destitute individual in the Third World—his degrading poverty, his needs, the obstacles to his development and the kinds of resources, equipment, methods, and structures which will most directly help him to help himself."

Despite his previous structures, Mr. O'Manique doesn't entirely despair of the media, though I think he is over-optimistic.

"Positive efforts should be made," he finally says, "to further educate the media in these new and complex issues and on the ways in which they can be presented to the public. Workshops organized within universities would be one way of doing this."

I don't think it's education the media need. What editors and publishers need is to lose the fear of going bankrupt if they try to lead public taste, instead of following it like so many sheep. It's unlikely that they'll lose that fear; indeed, it may be justified. Mr. O'Manique thinks church and labor leaders could do much more to increase awareness among the millions of church and union members.

If the emphasis is on self-interest, public awareness of and support for international development would be easier to gain. "The relationship between our overdevelopment and Third World underdevelopment must be made clear. Canadians must see the extent to which our development has been aided by cheap labor (including slave labor), cheap raw materials and cheap energy from the poor countries, that this situation is already changing and that it will continue to change—either in an orderly way with our cooperation, or with great trauma because of our resistance." **DD**

Ben Malkin is a freelance writer in Ottawa. He is a veteran journalist and a former editorial writer for the Ottawa Citizen.

BOOKS THIRD WORLD QUARTERLY

**New Zealand House
80 Haymarket**

London SW1Y 4TS

Editor: Altaf Gauhar

Four Issues Airmail:

Individuals £10.00; \$20.00

Institutions: £12; \$24.00

Students: £6; \$12

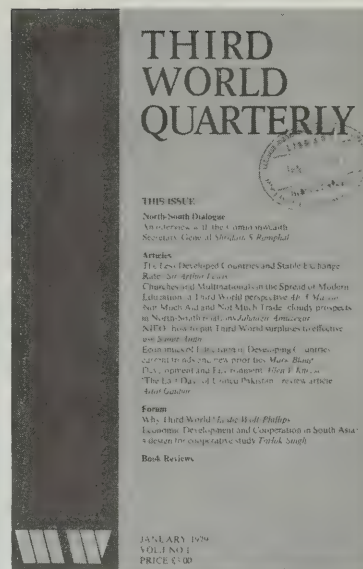
The inception of Third World Quarterly promises to be an event of momentous significance. Such a statement might, at a first glance, appear to be grossly exaggerated if one considered only the spate of publications on every subject in this era of information explosion.

At the very outset, the quarterly has categorically stated that it would not concern itself with abstract and theoretical issues and would "focus attention on specific issues and suggest specific solutions with interdisciplinary scope." This in itself is of far-reaching import for as the former German Chancellor Willy Brandt pointed out — albeit in a different context, in the second issue of the quarterly — the problems of development "have been presented far too often as technical problems and many people as a result of that have not understood what really is at stake. It is really to do with the future of mankind."

Until now, the problems of the Third World have been assessed from the viewpoint of the industrialized countries or by what could be termed as "indigenous outsiders." This has produced a situation, even though unwittingly, of the blind leading the blind.

The editor of Third World Quarterly, Altaf Gauhar, and the associate editor, Khalid Hasan, belong to that infinitesimally small group of people in the developing world who having accepted a number of Western values have not cut themselves off from their own heritage. As such their credentials to interpret and project the Third World situation are impeccable.

A regular feature of the journal is the "North-South dialogue" in which Altaf Gauhar interviews eminent statesmen and scholars involved in North-South issues. Among those already interviewed are Shridath S. Ramphal, secretary-general of the Commonwealth; Lee Kuan Yew, prime minister of Singapore; and Willy Brandt, now chairman of the Independent Commission on International Development Issues.



Among the contributors are Julius Nyerere, Sir Bernard Braine, Gunnar Myrdal, Sir Arthur Lewis, B.K. Nehru, Jahangir Amuzegar, and other eminent scholars and statesmen.

Third World Review is published by the Third World Foundation for Social and Economic Studies based in London. The foundation states that its aims are to relieve poverty and sickness and advance education among inhabitants of developing countries through the establishment of programs of research and investigation.

The foundation accepts no aid, grant or assistance from any government or official agency. A regional office has been set up in Washington and further regional offices are planned in major Third World capitals. **DD**

reviewed by Osman Siddiqui
Osman Siddiqui is a free-lance writer and researcher specializing in international affairs.

THE COUP

by John Updike
Random House of Canada
299 pages, \$11.75

Imagine a North African country so poor that tropical diseases are humorously considered the nation's most exportable natural resources. Imagine a country so backward that not even National Geographic magazine has penetrated its interior.

This is Kush, a landlocked desert sandbox, a former French colony, a surrealist Saharan state, run — or perhaps one should say ruined — by a mad Marxist dictator, Colonel Elleilloù.

Kush is a dreamland thought up by novelist John Updike in what must have

been a dream state. This imaginary, present-day land which overlays, in reality, Niger and Chad, is a composite Third World country: Kush has 22 miles of railway, 107 miles of paved road, and the national airline, Air Kush, boasts two 727s. Peanuts, sorghum, and millet are the chief crops, and this feudal Marxist kingdom is constantly having it out with two capitalist neighbors between which it is sandwiched.

Life has not been good to the people of Kush; a succession of conquerors and foreign governments has passed before the nation as entertainers do in a hospital ward. Enter the Marxist ruler, Colonel Ellelloû, responsible for the 1968 coup and deposition of the king.

At this point The Coup begins to mimic the machinations of Evelyn Waugh in his satirical novels. The good Colonel Ellelloû is also a 20th century Gulliver, an African Candide demented in his dreamworld desert. This is, too, a political statement about East versus West, a dance of the dialectic, and if not a dance, then a boxing match.

The book is not so much a statement about aid as it is about development. Readers are treated to passing references about the failures of Western assistance — like the vaccination programs which kept too many Sahelian cattle alive for the region's frail ecology and limited water reserves.

The book is not so much about development as it is about culture; international development cannot be reduced to shipments of milkpowder and breakfast cereal. Culture is shipped unseen in the holds of cargo vessels and the bellies of airplanes. Africans begin to think of cornflakes, corfam, and cream of celery soup as needs, not wants.

The problems of cultural exchange are not limited to what we ship "them." Third World students who visit North America, as Colonel Ellelloû does in his undergraduate days, pick up far more than they bargain for in this respect. Updike has painted a fine and funny portrait of what happens to these visitors from — what must seem to some — another planet.

The Coup is a brilliant statement about this cultural warp, the "twilight zonish" quality of aid and development. It is a sensitive and satiric armchair visit for the untravelled reader. That Updike, the masterful author of such suburban fiction as *Couples* and *Rabbit Redux*, could paint such a detailed picture of North African habits and habitats after just one tour of the Sahel in 1973, is testimony to his storytelling accomplishments. **DD**

reviewed by Jim White

DEVELOPMENT PERSPECTIVES

THE COLOMBO PLAN RETHINKS ITS FUTURE

by Allan Thornley
CIDA information officer

The Colombo Plan—now 28 years old—is going through a process of rethinking this year that may give it a renewed sense of purpose.

Originally given a six-year lifespan, the plan has shown impressive staying power, growing and changing over the decades. It now involves more than two dozen countries, most of them non-Commonwealth, and its regional member-countries have more than 1.2 billion people—about 30 per cent of the planet's total population including three quarters of the world's billion-plus absolute poor.

Paradoxically, the Colombo Plan is neither a plan nor is it mainly in Colombo. In reality, it consists of all the bilateral development agreements between member countries, coordinated and analysed at periodic Colombo Plan conferences.

This effort is supplemented by a small permanent bureau located in Colombo, Sri Lanka and by a few modest initiatives such as the drug advisory program and the Colombo Plan staff college.

The plan began as a result of a meeting in 1950 attended by such Commonwealth statesmen as India's Nehru, Britain's Ernest Bevin and Canada's Lester Pearson. It was conceived as a way of helping the newly-independent nations of south Asia to put down the economic and social roots needed to ensure their survival.

In recent years, many regional members have become donors as well as recipients of assistance, offering help to other Asian countries in their fields of expertise. India, for example, now ranks as the sixth-largest donor to Colombo Plan co-operation, and significant contributions have been made by Pakistan, Korea, Singapore, Thailand, Sri Lanka, the Philippines, Malaysia and Burma. As President Jayewardene of Sri Lanka, one of the Colombo Plan's original co-authors, noted recently "the dividing line between donors and recipients has changed, thus making the Plan a truly co-operative enterprise between countries."

Conferences have normally been held annually, but in 1979 the Colombo Plan



A woman stone carrier at the Colombo Plan Upper Bhavani Dam project in India.
NFB photo: Richard Harrington

is taking a year out. In place of a full-scale meeting, member countries are submitting their ideas for making the plan more effective and relevant in a changing world. A small group of senior officials from developed and developing countries will meet in Colombo next December, look closely at these ideas and at the plan's operation, then produce recommendations for final decision at the next conference, scheduled for late 1980 in Indonesia.

The Colombo Plan has an imposing history. Up to the end of 1977, it had served as a framework for the provision of more than \$52.5 billion in aid (about 5 per cent from Canada), including 130,000 training fellowships and the services of 35,000 experts. In the words of U.S. President Carter at last year's streamlined conference in Washington, it has also helped to "generate concepts and ideas that are now widely accepted both inside the region and outside it."

Perhaps the key to the Colombo Plan's long life is its traditional atmosphere of informality and complete equality, reinforced by the habit of seeking consensus rather than confrontation when decisions must be made.

Perhaps the answer to any questions about its continued utility will depend on how well this year's working group in Colombo and next year's conference in Jakarta succeed in finding ways by which this venerable institution can shed any barnacles that may have accumulated with time, and prepare itself to function well as a unique, non-contentious forum for development co-operation in the 1980s. **DD**

DEVELOPMENT COMMENT

CITIZENS OF THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST ARE CONCERNED WITH DEVELOPMENT ISSUES

by J.M. Dubé

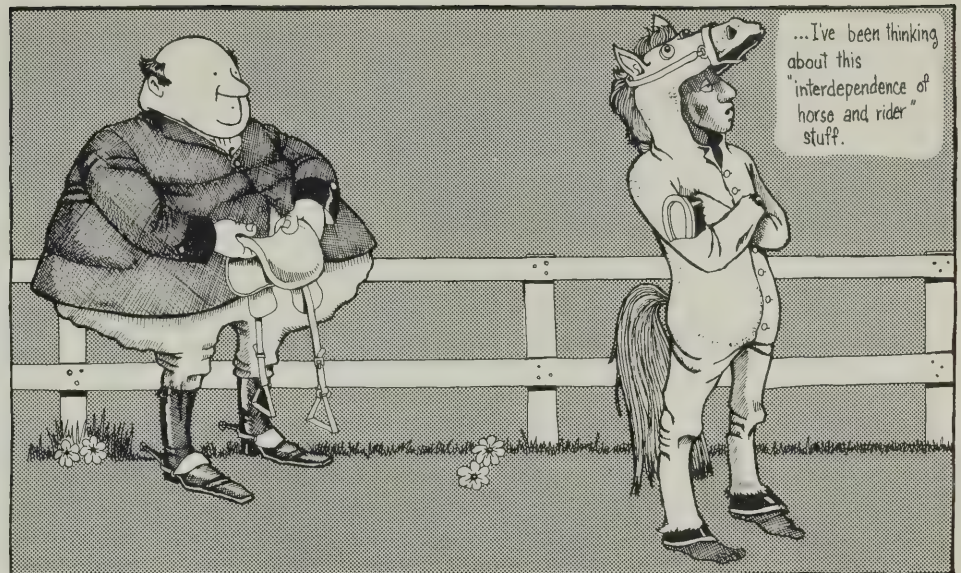
Canada's Western coastal province and states of North America are ever responding to the changing conditions in the vast and unpredictable Pacific Ocean. How did it ever come to have such a name? Just as Latin Americans are ever conscious of the United States as the giant to the north, so too, inhabitants of the Pacific northwest soon develop in their deep subconscious, a realisation that what happens out there in the remote reaches of the turbulent Pacific will affect their daily lives in the short and the long run. Perhaps this accounts for the fact that the two most successful non-governmental conferences on the New International Economic Order have been held in Los Angeles and Seattle in the last two years.

It was encouraging to note the extremely wide spectrum of participating groups in both Los Angeles and Seattle. Business, government, labour, religious groups, environmentalists, developmentalists and peace organizations were well represented.

Development groups from mainland British Columbia and Vancouver Island co-sponsored the Seattle Conference and sent 60 delegates.

At the earlier Los Angeles conference the \$400 billion spent on armaments per year caused repeated uproar and consternation, as did the impact on the environment of the increasing assaults of technology in the relentless pursuit of the "better" life by the already affluent.

At the later Seattle conference, the human factor and trade and commodities issues were dominant. This shift of emphasis has been achieved in part by the extremely valuable input at Seattle by remarkably competent and articulate Canadian native Indian spokesmen and from oppressed groups in the Third World. The other factor is the rising voice of the Third World as articulated by the "Group of 77" urging



collective self-reliance and stabilisation of commodity prices within a pre-determined range over a given period in the interests of all concerned.

Even U.S. President Jimmy Carter is anxious to negotiate an International Wheat Agreement. No longer is interfering with the formerly sacrosanct "market forces" considered communism, or some variant of it. There is hope now that the international agreements for sugar, rubber and tin will be accepted soon.

It was U.S. Senator Frank Church who confessed that U.S. beet sugar producers were going out of business because of the low world price of sugar. This was due to the fact that the International Sugar Agreement was not yet ratified by the U.S. Government. He was optimistic that such ratification would occur as soon as a domestic sugar policy was formulated.

International commodity agreements are now seen not as the distorted machinations of avaricious ill-nourished brains of the Third World, but as an important development in a more stable and mutually beneficial New International Economic Order.

Perhaps because the UNCTAD V talks were due to be held a month after the Seattle conference, trade, the common fund, and the integrated program of commodities received additional attention by the NGO group. However, the increasing trend towards protectionism in world trade was cause for concern, as were the obstacles to Third World participation in financing decisions, shipping, insurance, and export of their manufactures as well as to their attempts at diversification of their economies.

Admittedly, there was a strong desire from business and academic circles to discuss aid and blame the victim for not having the mystical, socio-cultural qualities that underpin the economic miracles of South Korea, Singapore, Taiwan, Brazil and Chile. This was countered by the introduction of the question of economic justice by Mahmood Mestiri, spokesman for the "Group of 77" developing nations. He emphasised that the interdependence of horse and rider must give way to that between equal human beings, the hall-mark of the New International Economic Order.

The people of the Pacific northwest are well placed to appreciate the importance of the turbulence occurring way out there in a far from pacific world. DD

J.M. Dubé is a Nanaimo physician and vice-president of the Nanaimo International Development Education Association (NIDEA).

Development Comment is a column of opinion on issues in the field of international development. Readers are invited to send submissions. They should not be more than 1,000 words, preferably typed and double spaced. Send submissions together with complete address and phone number to:

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